FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East & North Africa

Vol V No 046 *6 March 1980*

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Islamic Conference 'Satisfied' With UN Vote on Israel A 1
Abu Mayzar, Faruq Qaddumi Criticize U.S. Retraction A 1
Diplomatic Scandal for U.S. A 1
U.S. Hostile to Palestinians [VOP] A 1
Salah Khalaf Comments on USSR PLO Foreign Affairs A 3
Remarks on USSR, U.S., Rule A 3
Discusses French Position, UN Amendment [AS-SIYASAH 3 Mar]

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

Government To Undertake New Oil Prospecting [AL-ADWA' 1 Mar] C 1

KUWAIT

Government Reacts to U.S. Retraction of UN Vote C 1
May Increase Tension C 1
Expression of Regret C 2
Press Contrasts French, U.S. Policies in Mideast C 2

PDRY

YAR Minister, Delegation Arrive for Constitutional Talks C 3
Meet 'Ali Nasir Muhammad C 4
Talks Begin C 4

QATAR

France, Government Express Anxiety Over Mideast in Statement C 5
Government Disputes Bahraini Claims on Hawar Islands C 8
Saudi Foreign Ministry Official Arrives With Message C 8

SAUDI ARABIA

Japanese Envoy Sonoda Pays Visit to Kingdom C 9
Arrival Reported C 9
Meets Prince Fahd C 9
Soviet Threat Discussed C 9
Press Conference C 10
Meets Yamani C 11
Ends Visit C 11
Foreign Minister Returns From Bonn 5 Mar C 12
Press Regrets U.S. Retraction on UN Vote C 12

UAE

Reportage on Talks With French President C 12
President Zayid's Statement C 12
Meeting Begins C 13
French Spokesman's Remarks C 13
Minister Returns, Says African Tour 'Successful' C 14

YAR

Foreign Minister Returns From Tunis 5 Mar C 14

EGYPT

Ghali Receives Report on U.S. Retraction D 1
AL-AHRAM Welcomes U.S. Security Council Vote [3 Mar] D 1
Israeli Ambassador Meets With Vice President Mubarak 5 Mar D 2
'Ali Discusses Peace Treaty, U.S. Arms to Egypt ['AL HAMISHMAR 20 Feb] D 2
Former General Examines Purpose of U.S. Arms Purchase D 4
[Algiers ASH-SHA'B 20 Feb]
AL-AHRAM: Arming Nation Is Necessary for Peace [27 Feb] D 7
Mustafa Khalil Views Mideast Issues, Giscard Remarks in Paris D 8
[cross-reference]
Loan Agreement Initialed With Denmark 5 Mar D 8

IRAQ

RCC Vice Chairman, Jordan's Hasan Hold Closed Talks E 1
Romanian Envoy Discusses Afghanistan, Other Issues With President E 1
Concludes Visit E 1
Trade Delegation Returns From Moscow E 1
Commentary Says Khomeyni Enables U.S. To Find Foothold in Gulf E 2
Baghdad Radio Criticizes Arabs Friendly With Iran E 3
Briefs: Loan for YAR Airport E 4

JORDAN

King Husayn Wants Mideast Problem Examined at UN, Not Geneva F 1
[Paris LE MONDE 4 Mar]
Anticipates UN Initiative [Paris LE FIGARO 3 Mar] F 1
Amman Radio Criticizes Carter Statement on UN Vote F 2

LEBANON

President Sarkis Addresses Nation on Basic Principles G 1
Al-Huss Stresses Need for Detente, Security Plan G 3

SYRIA

Al-Asad Receives PLO's 'Arafat, Other Palestinians H 1
Al-Asad Receives Messages From Romanian President H 1
President Al-Asad Chairs National Front Meeting H 1
Official Accuses Israel of Preparing Military Action H 1
VOL Reports on Clashes, Tension in Aleppo H 2

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Agricultural Cooperation Protocol Signed With Hungary I 1

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses African Women's Conference I 1

MAURITANIA

Haydala Receives POLISARIO Delegation 5 Mar I 2

SUDAN

Zambian Finance Minister Arrives 5 Mar I 2

TUNISIA

Doctor Reports Nouira's Health Improving I 3
Bourguiba Meets DPRK Delegation 4 Mar I 3
Delegation Leaves I 3
Bourguiba's Son Reports on Foreign Tour I 3
L'ACTION: Libya Mounts Search for Oil Well Saboteurs I 4
KUNA: Minister Says No Attack Expected From Libya I 4
Anti-Tunisian Clandestine Radio Heard 21 Feb I 5

WESTERN SAHARA

POLISARIO Asks Mauritania To Hand Over Territories I 5
POLISARIO Forces Reportedly 'Liberate' Smara I 5

ISRAEL

Critical Reaction to U.S. Vote At UN Continues N 1
Begin, Peres Decry Action N 1
Resolution Rejecting Vote Analyzed N 1
HA'ARETZ Assessment [5 Mar] N 2
Carter Stunned by Negative Reaction [HATZOFE 5 Mar] N 3
UN Sinai Observers To Remain in Egyptian Territory [MA'ARIV 4 Mar] N 4
Tourism Agreement Delayed; Airline Service Inaugurated N 4
'Technical Problems' N 4
Passengar Flights Begin N 4
Visa, Travel Documents Issue Raised for Gaza Residents N 5
Role of Antinormalization Groups in Egypt Examined N 5
Begin Receives Egyptian Ambassador Murtada 6 Mar N 6
Foreign Ministry Protests Giscard's Statements N 6
Support, Criticism Voiced on Jewish Settlement in Hebron N 6
Gush Emunim Discusses Settlement [HATZOFE 5 Mar] N 6
Minister Levi Tours Hebron N 7
Liberals Dismayed by Levi's Visit N 7
Delay in Cabinet Discussion Sought N 7
La'am Discusses Settlement Policy N 7
Defense Establishment Criticizes Settlement [HA'ARETZ 6 Mar] N 8
Labor Party To Assume Dovish Position After Allon's Death [HA'ARETZ 4 Mar] N 9
Jordan Opposes Resumption of Geneva Conference N 9

IRAN

[For material on Iran normally appearing in this DAILY REPORT see the supplement to the 6 March Middle East & North Africa DAILY REPORT No 046, Supplement 057]

SOUTH ASIA

AFGHANISTAN

Kabul Denies Use of Soviet Troops, Napalm, Gas in Fighting S 1
Ministry of Agriculture Discusses Distribution Problems S 1
AFP: Karmal Says Secure Frontier Part of Larger Problem S 2
Rebel Suffer Serious Setback in Konarha Fighting S 3
[LE MONDE 4 Mar]
Soviets Reportedly Drop Nerve Gas on Tribesmen S 4
Interviews With Rebel Leaders Reveal Divisions S 4
[NRC HANDELSBLAD 1 Mar]

INDIA

Gandhi Assures Cooperation in Rebuilding Zimbabwe's Economy S 8
Government To Strengthen Assam-Bangladesh Border Vigilance S 8
INDIAN EXPRESS Claims Message Sent to USSR Urging Afghan Solution S 8
Editorial Urges Joint Efforts With EEC in Afghanistan S 8

PAKISTAN

Shahi Remarks on Afghanistan, U.S. Aid, Other Issues S 10
Call for Olympic Boycott S 11
PRC Defense Pact, Indian Hegemony S 12
Further Report S 12
Japan's Sonoda Views Afghan Developments During Visit S 13
Discusses Arms With Haq S 13
Spokesman Denies Violation of Afghan Airspace S 14
Envoy to India Replies to Objections on U.S. Arms Aid S 15
Federal Minister Addresses Local Bodies Convention S 15
Interviews Indicate Baluchis Would Welcome Soviet Intervention S 16

SRI LANKA

Official Says Surveys Reveal Possible Uranium Deposits S 17

ISLAMIC CONFERENCE 'SATISFIED' WITH UN VOTE ON ISRAEL

LD051206 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0515 GMT 5 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Jidda--The General Secretariat of the Islamic Conference Organization has expressed its satisfaction with the Security Council's condemnation of the Israeli enemy's policy regarding the construction of more settlements in the occupied Arab territories.

An official source at the Secretariat has stated that issuing such an important resolution is considered an expression of the conviction of the international community that what Israel is doing is unlawful and a genuine challenge to the realization of a lasting and just peace in the Middle East. The source has called on the countries of the world to refrain from giving any military or economic assistance to Israel in order to force it to abandon its expansionist settlement policy and to comply with the resolutions of the international community. The source has expressed its pleasure with the role played by the group of Islamic countries at the United Nations in the interest of the just cause of the Palestinian question and against the tyrannous policy of the enemy.

ABU MAYZAR, FARUQ QADDUMI CRITICIZE U.S. RETRACTION

Diplomatic Scandal for U.S.

JN050558 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 5 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Damascus--'Abd al-Muhsin abu Mayzar, official spokesman for the PLO Executive Committee, has stressed that U.S. President Jimmy Carter's retraction on the U.S. approval of the UN Security Council resolution that condemns Israel for establishing settlements in the occupied Arab territories is considered a political and diplomatic scandal for the United States, to be added to the record of its former retractions on several international issues.

In a press statement, Abu Mayzar described Carter's retraction as evidence of the inability of the U.S. leadership, represented by Carter, to deal honestly with the issues of the region's peoples. Abu Mayzar added: The U.S. administration's stand increases our conviction that we cannot trust U.S. policy, which is constantly hostile to our people's cause, as well as to the causes of the Arabs and Muslims. Further, this stand frankly shows the real U.S. participation in the continuous aggression against the Arab causes, foremost of which are Jerusalem and the Palestinian people's inalienable rights.

U.S. Hostile to Palestinians

NC051851 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1535 GMT 5 Mar 80 NC

[Interview with chairman of the PLO Political Department Faruq Qaddumi by an unidentified voice of Palestine correspondent on 5 March-recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] As you know, a few days ago the Security Council adopted a resolution condemning the settlement policy of the Zionist enemy on occupied Palestinian and Arab land.

The United States voted in favor of this resolution, and then withdrew its support at the highest level by the President of the U.S. administration. What is your comment on this topic in view of the fact that the prime minister of the Egyptian regime, Mustafa Khalil, has announced new concessions on the autonomy plot--namely, the issues of security and foreign policy?

[Answer] The Security Council adopted a resolution condemning settlements and asked for an end to them, as well as a dismantling of those that have already been built on the occupied Arab territory. The resolution included Jerusalem and considered it to be part of the West Bank. This is what prompted the United States to reconsider its approval of the Security Council resolution after pressures from the Zionist lobby.

Without question, the United States and President Carter have often adopted certain stands and shortly afterwards gone back on them. On 1 October 1977, the United States and President Carter adopted a stand with the signing of the joint U.S.-Soviet statement. A great furor was raised in [words indistinct] and in the United States against this statement. Shortly thereafter, President Carter retracted this stand.

This is a clear indication that the U.S. administration and President Carter are too weak to adopt decisive stands; that the United States has not changed its stand toward the Palestine question; and that its stand is still hostile to the Palestinian people's aspirations despite all international pressure exerted on it by many countries.

[Question] Brother Abu al-Lutf, as you know there has been a new French stand that emerged during President Giscard d'Estaing's visit to the Gulf. This stand can be summed by the term "the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination." The French stand considers the Palestinian question not as one of refugees but as one of a people who have a right to a homeland. What is the PLO's assessment of the new French step, and what is its effect on the Arab-European dialog, on the EEC and on the United States?

[Answer] This is a positive step. For the first time France takes a clear stand toward the Palestinian people's national rights [words indistinct] that it is inevitable to have the Palestinian people determine their future, to have a homeland and that the question is not only one of refugees but of the entire Palestinian people. The significance is that this will lead us in the future to have an independent Palestinian state.

We believe that this French stand will have a great effect on the European countries. The FRG and Britain have followed suit. This means that the French stand has greatly influenced these countries and made them take forward steps toward the Palestinian cause. Both the adoption of a positive stand by Europe toward the Palestine question and the recognition of the Palestinian people's rights will undoubtedly create pressure on the United States because it is the only country that has not adopted such a positive stand. The Arab-European dialog will undoubtedly move forward and Arab-European relations will improve further.

SALAH KHALAF COMMENTS ON PLO FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Remarks on USSR, U.S. Role

NC280935 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 25 Feb-2 Mar 80 pp 14-25 NC

[Lydia Georgi interview with PLO official Salah Khalaf, presumably in Beirut--date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: Developments in Iran and Afghanistan have led to the resumption of the "cold war" between the two superpowers and impelled many countries in the region to turn to the United States for protection against a so-called Soviet menace--what, in your opinion, is the impact of these events on the course of the Palestinian revolution and the Mideast in general, now that the eyes of the world are cast on this region?

Answer: First, one cannot help wondering how people suddenly discovered a Soviet danger and turned to America as the saviour of nations, forgetting the plight inflicted by America on the Arab and Palestinian peoples.

I say that, in principle, we are opposed to any intervention in the affairs of any state. But if we tackle the depth of the question, I believe that the Americans scored benefits from that demonstration at the Islamic conference. They made up for their defeats all over the world. Like it or not, we Arabs, along with some Islamic states, have been dragged into that rabid campaign against the Soviet Union to cover all of America's crimes in the region--American's crimes in Iran, in Africa, in Asia, everywhere!

Question: Do you believe that the PLO was also dragged into that current?

Answer: Upon a request by Iran and in response to the behest of some sister Arab states, the PLO sent an observer (to Islamabad). We wished to displease no one. This is because PLO policy is like someone walking on a tightrope in a circus; he falls down if he lists to the left or to the right.

In fact, it was a courtesy move on our part. But in practice, the Islamic Conference gave America the image of a savior of peoples, of the safekeeper of liberty and dignity. But where's the dignity that America has kept safe for any people? In Vietnam, for instance? In all of Asia? In India? Where? In Palestine, our hitherto occupied homeland, where America gives Israel everything it needs? In southern Lebanon, where the most sophisticated bombs are experimented with against the Lebanese people? Where and on what does America stand with us?

I can understand that there should have been a stance on intervention in general and, for instance, an observers' commission to investigate whether there was an intervention against the will of the (Afghan) people. But that rabid campaign against the Soviet Union in the interest of giving the United States a facelift is, in my opinion, a grand crime into which we must not be dragged.

Question: Some political commentators say that, despite the rigid attitude of the American administration toward the PLO, Washington has encouraged some of its allies to open up toward the organization. They point to the invitations that PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat received to visit Vienna, Madrid, Lisbon, Ankara, and possibly Tokyo, as well as to dialogues between some countries of the European Economic Community and the PLO Political Department. Is this a prelude to a Palestinian-American dialogue?

Answer: I hate to draw any links between the European and American attitudes. Some of these European countries may have sounded out the United States' position before inviting brother Abu Ammar or brother Abu al-Lutf (PLO Political Department Chief Faruq Qaddumi) to visit them. But this does not imply that these invitations will necessarily lead to a dialogue with the United States.

Is it likely that the United States will modify its policy? And why should it do so, as long as As-Sadat rotates in its orbit? As-Sadat said he goes along with the United States, and none of the oil states is pressuring Washington. On what grounds then do we base the assumption that the United States would retreat?

At this juncture, I would repeat what I said about the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and the Baghdad and Tunis summit conferences as well as about As-Sadat's action. What we need is this:

1. To strike a balance between the Arab forces and those of Israel.

2. To rectify the path of As-Sadat, change his platform and topple him.

3. To use the economic strength of the Arabs--oil--as a weapon in the battle--even though this is going to be dubbed an act of "blackmail."

No economy operates in isolation from politics, and politics is never far removed from economics--they go hand-in-hand. Who says that we have to pay with blood what others cash in with oil and petrodollars?

The question is not really pegged to European visits, an activity that will have to be weighed properly. It is merely a question of political manifestation, political action involving peoples of some European countries, who at one stage mistook us for terrorists and people who neigh, with long teeth, ever-destructive....

But to harbor hopes that the United States will change its policy is something that runs contrary to realities, because the United States cannot possibly do that. Can it really disengage itself from the Zionist octopus influencing its economy, media and destiny?

Question: You say there is no prelude to an American-Palestinian dialogue--what, then is the story behind the much talked-about messages? It was said, for instance, that Abu Ammar traveled to Saudi Arabia and picked up a message which the U.S. National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski had left for him with the Saudi leaders, and that he had sent a reply message to President Carter.

Answer: I believe all this is merely rumor or wishful thinking. There are some who wish this to happen and others who spread rumors about it. Those bent on hurting us say there are secret contacts. But if the United States approached us for a dialogue, then no one of us will cover and do it secretly. Why do it behind curtains? What benefit do we score in secret political action?

Question: It might be a way for sounding out...

Answer: Nonsense. When the United States gets ready to recognize us we will, quite naturally, be happy about that. But this does not mean we will pray, crawl or bend to the United States for recognition. U.S. reluctance to recognize us keeps a dark page in its policy. Some Arab consciences--particularly those who have the oil--might eventually be moved.

Question: What about the invitation to 'Arafat to visit Japan?

Answer: Despite all that's being said in the press, the visit to Tokyo concerns Abu al-Lutf and Abu Mazin. The time is not yet ripe for a visit by Abu Ammar to Japan. For Abu Ammar to visit Japan, he must receive an invitation from the Japanese Governmnt. There is an invitation from some parliamentary circles and a readiness by the Japanese prime minister to receive Abu Ammar. But, as I said, the invitation must come from the Japanese Government, as far as Abu Ammar is concerned.

Question: Do you expect such an invitation?

Answer: We expect the visit of Abu al-Lutf to pave the way for such an invitation.

Question: Is the Syrian decision to pull out of Beirut tantamount to declaring Beirut an "open city," or a prelude to ending armed Palestinian presence inside the capital? Do Palestinian and Syrian views meet on this?

Answer: First, the Syrian pullout was never spelled out within such a framework. It was not called a "withdrawal," but a "redeployment"--prompted by fears of an Israeli strike against Syrian forces while they remain scattered.

The Syrian redeployment was never put forward in the context of turning Beirut into an "open city," because the redeployment decision was not made in agreement with the state or with us.

If that were the case, then why have all these delegations been moving back and forth between Beirut and Damascus?

Therefore, it's not a concerted decision between the Lebanese and Syrian authorities or between the Lebanese state and the Palestinians. It's strictly a Syrian decision motivated by internal Syrian considerations.

Question: What would the effect of the redeployment be on the resistance?

Answer: Frankly, we've stated our opinion more than once--that we are apprehensive about the redeployment, especially along the "confrontation lines." These "confrontation lines" have become "borders" within Beirut. We fear that such a situation will lead to a resumption of hostilities, especially since the reconciliation is not yet underway.

There are people who object to the (Lebanese) Army entering certain areas. We are afraid of any friction. The (Henri Chehab) barracks incident shows that some cohorts managed to kindle a battle of two to three hours before we were able to regain control and later denounce the incident.

For these reasons we have asked our Syrian brothers to forego the redeployment decision, and I believe all delegations that went to Damascus put up similar requests.

I can understand a pullout from the streets (dismantling the roadblocks), and the ingathering of troops in certain areas. I know what efforts it takes to keep all units that enter here under strict control.

Redeployment per se is not wrong. On the contrary, it's good for the morale of the army, whose strength and presence--even in Lebanon--are needed in the event of a clash with Israel.

But there are some sensitive locations where we still hope our Syrian brothers will stay on, at least until national accord over all state institutions, including the army, is achieved. Once this happens, it will not be a problem if the army enters or leaves (any area).

Discusses French Position, UN Amendment

LD051433 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 3 Mar 80 p 3 LD

[Text] A prominent Palestinian leader stated yesterday that Kuwait is doing its utmost to persuade the French Government to arrange for a visit to Paris by PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat. In an interview with KUNA, Salah Khalaf, member of the Central Committee of Fatah, the biggest Palestinian fedayeen organization, said that his highness the amir of Kuwait told him during their meeting the day before yesterday that this matter would occupy a prominent place on the agenda of his discussions with French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing, who arrived in Kuwait the day before yesterday on an official visit as part of a Gulf tour. Khalaf said that the PLO attaches great importance to 'Arafat's visit because it will carry with it the first recognition by a major European state of the PLO as the representative of the Palestinian people. Khalaf praised Kuwait's attitude toward the Palestinian issue and the aid it is giving to the PLO.

Khalaf predicted the failure of the U.S.-sponsored Egyptian-Israeli negotiations on giving autonomy to the Palestinians in the occupied Arab territories. He said that Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat has paved the way for this failure by calling for the occupied territories to be placed under a 5-year joint Egyptian-Israeli-American mandate. He said that the autonomy plan stipulated in the Egyptian-Israeli conciliation agreements will fail for the basic reason that the Palestinians in the occupied territories refuse to participate in it, because it is an unjust solution and represents none of the Palestinian people's aspirations.

The Palestinian official added that attempts are being pioneered by Britain, with other European states, to prepare an initiative to be proponded as soon as the autonomy negotiations fail. This initiative is the introduction of an amendment to UN Security Council Resolution 242 or a new resolution. He pointed out, however, that the European states cannot lead such an initiative without U.S. approval, adding that it will not fundamentally change the crisis. Yet, he added, the PLO will study what is put forward and will define its attitude to it in light of the positive and negative aspects it contains.

Khalaf expected Israel to launch partial or all-out war against the Palestinian fedayeen in south Lebanon and probably against Syria at the same time in May, when the autonomy talks are scheduled to be concluded. He said that these talks will definitely fail.

Khalaf said that he is not optimistic about any change in the American administration's policy on the Palestinian issue. He said that such a change will occur only when the American people feel that their country's close relationship with Israel is maintained at their expense. He added that the Arab states have not used the oil weapon sufficiently to serve the just Arab causes.

The Palestinian official reaffirmed PLO support for the Iranian Islamic Revolution, adding however that the Palestinian revolution is not Islamic, owing to many considerations. The most important consideration is the presence of a large section of Christian Palestinians. Another is that the revolution is an Arab one and cannot relinquish its Arabism under any slogan. He said that the Palestinian support for Iran is based on the Iranian Islamic regime's hostility to the United States and Israel and because it sided with and declared its support for the Palestinian cause following Egypt's retirement from the arena of confrontation with the Zionist state.

BAHRAIN

GOVERNMENT TO UNDERTAKE NEW OIL PROSPECTING

GF0211?0 Manama AL-ADWA' in Arabic 1 Mar 80 pp 1, 11 GF

[Excerpt] In an exclusive interview with the editor in chief of AL-ADWA', Development and Industry Minister Yusuf Ahmad ash-Shirawi said: The Bahraini Government has decided to assume sole responsibility and bear all the costs in prospecting for oil in the eastern offshore area of Fasht al-'Azm, the northern offshore area which includes Fasht al-Yarim, and the western maritime area that extends as far as the borders with Saudi Arabia. The government is also interested in prospecting for oil in the area that lies outside the well-known Bahrain field that is currently being exploited.

The minister added: In the past the governments of the region traditionally asked the big oil companies to prospect for oil in their territory, entering into partnership and signing agreements approved by the two sides. The Bahraini Government, however, has decided not to opt for the traditional policy in order to maximize its investment return. The development and industry minister explained: If we should risk $7 million and discover deposits that total only 50 million barrels, the return will nevertheless be about $1.5 billion. But if we enter into partnership with a foreign oil company, and that company spends $7 million prospecting for oil, it would get $750 million. And this example, he noted, is based on modest estimates.

Asked if Bahrain had the personnel to do its own prospecting Ash-Shirwai said: The big oil companies with whom contracts for prospecting are usually concluded do not do the prospecting themselves. They subcontract the work to companies specializing in such operations. They are experts for hire.

Ash-Shirawi said: Our brothers in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait have declared their full readiness to help us in this field with experts, advisers, and other technical aid.

Ash-Shirawi added: The northern open sea areas and the Huwar group of islands are still subject to a concession granted 10 years ago to a group of American companies. This group drilled two experimental wells without encouraging results, and is about to drill a third well. The original agreement was the traditional kind. The government, however, was able to amend this agreement and obtained more generous terms that are compatible with the best offers now available for such agreements.

KUWAIT

GOVERNMENT REACTS TO U.S. RETRACTION OF UN VOTE

May Increase Tension

LD051244 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0700 GMT 5 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait--Kuwait today expressed its regret over U.S. President Carter's retraction of his country's approval of the UN Security Council resolution which calls for the removal of Israeli settlements from the occupied Arab territories.

'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, the minister of state for cabinet affairs and acting foreign minister, warned that this change in position could increase the tension in relations between the United States and the Arab world. He described the retraction as a big dilemma for the U.S. administration and attributed it to President Carter's desire to gain the approval of Israel and world Zionism.

Husayn was commenting in a statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-WATAN on a statement issued by President Carter on Monday in which he said that the United States wrongly supported the resolution passed unanimously by the UN Security Council last Saturday which called for the elimination of all Jewish settlements in the Arab territories occupied since 1967.

The Kuwaiti minister in his statement said: "It is truly regrettable that the U.S. administration has fallen into this big dilemma. It is also regrettable that a president of the largest power endeavours to [word indistinct] his administration's approval of the resolution passed by the Security Council."

Expression of Regret

LD051500 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1428 GMT 5 Mar 80 LD

[Excerpt] Kuwait--A senior Kuwaiti official today summoned the U.S. ambassador and officially conveyed to him Kuwait's regret at the U.S. President's retraction of his country's approval of the UN Security Council's resolution which calls for the removal of Israeli settlements from occupied Arab territory.

The official, that is, Kuwaiti Foreign Under Secretary Rashid ar-Rashid, told the U.S. ambassador that the continued Israeli settlements and expansion constitute a consolidation of the occupation and a violation of the UN resolution and the will of the international community. A Kuwaiti Government spokesman said that Mr ar-Rashid has explained Kuwait's attitude to the whole problem and also its rejection of the Israeli occupation in all its forms and its illegal settlement policy.

U.S. President Carter said in a controversial statement that his government had made a mistake in supporting the UN Security Council's resolution which called on Israel to remove all its settlements in the occupied Arab territory. He said that the United States should have abstained instead of voting for the resolution last Saturday.

PRESS CONTRASTS FRENCH, U.S. POLICIES IN MIDEAST

LD041242 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1136 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Press review on French, U.S. policies]

[Text] Kuwait, 4 March--AL-WATAN on French policy vis-a-vis American policy: [quotation marks as received]

"At the time four American Navy ships carrying 18000 soldiers are sailing towards the shores of Muscat to join 20 other ships stationed at the entrances of the Gulf, France is announcing that Gulf protection is the responsibility of its states."

"While the U.S. is going far in ignoring the Palestinians' rights and succumbing to the Israeli demands, France is announcing its support for the right of Palestinians in self-determination, marking the first Western European recognition of this right."

"No doubt this is a success, but success based in the first place on France's interests in the Arab world. Despite its importance this victory remains within the wide marginal pressures on Israel. Since De Gaulle, France has been exerting pressure and Israel has been increasing its stubborness. What is needed is a stronger pressure on the Arab level to be directed toward the more effective party vis-a-vis Israel, and that is the U.S."

"We all know that if France has one per cent of its interests in our region, the U.S. has the remaining 99 per cent. Though this ratio is huge, the Americans did not come to our region calling for peace and justice as did the French...on the contrary, the U.S. started to send their 'citadels' to our waters reiterating their ultimate support for the Zionist enemy."

ARAB TIMES on U.S. policy: "President Carter only last week had once again reaffirmed his opposition to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state." The developments reflect the continuing American policy supporting Israel at any cost, to the detriment of America's relations with the Arab states. On their parts, the Arab countries are used to this American partiality and do not expect it to be otherwise.

"America's attitude is directly responsible for emboldening Israel to continue its expansionist path without having any fear of retribution from anyone."

"Therefore, it is highly ludicrous for the United States now to vote against such policy, and even more ironic to expect that its vote would bring laurels from the Arab side. The American vote has in fact cut a cruel joke with the Arab world, especially the Palestinian people, whom the U.S. has helped to evict and uproot."

"The Arab world can appreciate American policy only if it stops giving aid and encouragement to the Zionist entity instead of just talking about it."

PDRY

YAR MINISTER, DELEGATION ARRIVE FOR CONSTITUTIONAL TALKS

LD031550 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 3 Mar 80 LD/EA

[Text] Members of the northern part of the homeland of the joint constitutional committee arrived in Aden this morning led by Husayn Ajali al-Hubayshi, minister of state and legal adviser to the presidency of the republic.

Following his arrival at Aden international airport, Al-Hubayshi told the press he was pleased to be in the southern part of the homeland with the members of the constitutional committee to attend the 11th session of the joint constitutional committee for 1980 and also to acquaint himself with the achievements of the southern part of the homeland. Brother Al-Hubayshi said he hoped the joint constitutional committee would succeed in covering a great deal of ground in order to bring to realization the hopes of our Yemeni people, and their aspirations to achieve the unity of the people and the land in implementation of the directives of the political leadership in the north and south of the homeland.

Meet 'Ali Nasir Muhammad

LD041626 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD/EA

[Summary] Premier 'Ali Nasir Muhammad yesterday met the North Yemeni members of the joint constitutional committee led by Husayn al-Hubayshi, minister of state and legal adviser to the North Yemeni president and prime minister. The members are in Aden to attend the joint constitutional committee meeting.

Premier 'Ali Nasir Muhammad welcomed the North Yemeni delegation and urged the committee to complete its work within the set time, promising that the government and party in Democratic Yemen would provide every facility to assist the committee to complete its work successfully.

Talks Begin

LD041902 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD/EA

[Text] The 11th session for 1980 of the joint constitutional committee for the two parts of the homeland began its work this morning at the local administration building in Kraytar, Aden.

The southern side was led by brother 'Abdallah Ahmad al-Ghanim, secretary of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the southern part in the committee. The northern side of the homeland was led by brother Husayn al-Hubayshi, minister of state and legal adviser to the president and prime minister in the northern part of the homeland.

In his opening speech brother 'Abdallah Ahmad al-Ghanim welcomed the leader and members of the northern side to their homeland in the southern part and said that it was an opportunity to witness the signs of progress which had been achieved. He said it aroused one's admiration that our joint work always proceeded well and with the enthusiasm required by our historic task in drawing up a comprehensive constitution for our united task in drawing up a comprehensive constitution for our united Yemeni homeland. He added: When I said at our last session that we were about to complete drawing up the constitution I meant what I said, for we have now completed all 134 basic constitutional articles.

This was a great achievement. What we expect now from this session is to put the final touches to the draft constitution. This would place us at the threshold of our aspiration to achieve Yemeni unity, the hope of our struggling masses. He went on to say that the assurances to proceed with our work and assistance from the officials in our Yemeni homeland give us every hope to be in the vanguard of all those working to achieve Yemeni unity.

Replying, brother Husayn al-Hubayshi said: We, as Yemeni brothers, are pleased to visit our beloved south to see its landmarks and achievements. With regard to Yemeni unity brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih said that Yemeni unity would continue to be persistently demanded by the masses for it was an inevitable necessity. Brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, the Presidium chairman in the southern part of the homeland, expressed his confidence that Yemeni unity would be achieved. On the basis of these nationalist statements and arising from the inspiration of the united Yemeni people, the constitutional conference will proceed with its work. And it is to be hoped that it will accomplish a good deal of its work and give a strong impetus along the road of unity.

The constitutional committee continued its session. It was agreed to form a four-member committee drawn from the members of the two delegations to go over the articles discussed at the 10th session of the constitutional committee in San'a' and to submit a report on those articles over which there was agreement.

QATAR

FRANCE, GOVERNMENT EXPRESS ANXIETY OVER MIDEAST IN STATEMENT

JN051237 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1005 GMT 5 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Doha, 5 March--Qatar and France have expressed their great anxiety over developments in the Middle East. They noted that dangerous spots of tension, which threaten both security and stability in the region and world balance and peace still exist and stressed that a settlement of the Middle East dispute, with the participation of all parties concerned, is the only way to end this tension.

In a statement issued today at the end of French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing's visit to Qatar, the two states declared their agreement that the desired just and lasting settlement of the Middle East issue must be based on UN resolutions, which necessarily call for Israel's withdrawal from all the Arab territories it occupied since 1967.

The two states stressed the need to recognize the real nature of the Palestine question, which constitutes the crux of the Middle East dispute, and said that this question must not be considered as one of refugees but of a people who have the right to live as a people and who, like all other peoples, should have the right to determine their own destiny in their homeland within the framework of a comprehensive settlement.

The two states affirmed their strong adherence to the Gulf region's security and stability, which they considered vital to world balance and prosperity. They stressed that the responsibility of guaranteeing that stability and security rests with the countries of the region, which must be kept free of international conflicts.

Qatar and France agreed in condemning the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan as a violation of international law and principles, as well as of the aims and objectives of the United Nations, which all member states pledged to honor. They also agreed on the necessity of the Soviet forces withdrawal from that country, in order to give the Muslim Afghan people the chance to determine their own destiny, and to prevent Afghanistan from becoming a location of or an instrument in international rivalry.

The two states expressed their great anxiety over the tension in Lebanon and affirmed their support for Lenanon's sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity. They also stressed the need to render the Mediterranean Sea and the Indian Ocean zones of peace and stability.

The two sides expressed their satisfaction with the continuous growth of relations between France and Qatar in all fields and agreed to continue the meetings between the leaders and officials of the two countries, for consultations on the best ways to consolidate this cooperation. The French president invited his highness the amir of Qatar to visit France. His highness graciously accepted the invitation and promised to pay the vist as soon as possible. The following is the text of the joint statement:

In response to an invitation from His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, the amir of the State of Qatar, and as an expression of the existing strong ties between Qatar and the Republic of France, His Excellency President Valery Giscard d'Estaing paid an official visit to the State of Qatar on 4 and 5 March 1980.

The great guest was met on arrival at Doha international airport by his highness the amir and by senior state officials. His excellency the great guest and his aides were accorded a warm official and popular reception, reflecting the existing strong friendly ties between the two friendly countries and leaders.

His excellency the president made it a point to express anew the profound friendly sentiments that he personally and the French Government and people harbor for His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani and for the Qatari Government and people.

In an atmosphere of sincere friendship and mutual respect, the two leaders held official talks that dealt with major international and regional issues of mutual concern, as well as with bilateral relations. The talks were attended by a number of officials from both sides.

During their discussion of the major international and regional issues, his excellency the president of France and his highness the amir of Qatar expressed their adherence to the principles of the UN Charter and to those of human rights.

Their viewpoints were identical on the principles upon which international relations must be based. They reaffirmed their conviction that dialog and consultation are the best means for guaranteeing and fostering world peace, achieving international justice, strengthening the bonds of solidarity among nations and insuring respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The French president and his highness the amir of Qatar expressed deep anxiety over the dangers resulting from the instability to which some parts of the world are being exposed. They also expressed their rejection of foreign intervention in other countries domestic affairs as disruptive to international peace and security. The two leaders attached special importance to the situation in Afghanistan that resulted from the Soviet intervention there and agreed in denouncing it, as it contravenes international law and UN principles and objectives, which UN members have pledged to respect. They also agreed that the Soviet forces must withdraw, in order to enable the Muslim Afghan people to determine their own fate and to prevent Afghanistan from becoming an arena for or instrument of international competition.

The two sides also stressed their strong commitment to stability and security in the Gulf area, which is vital to world balance and prosperity. They stressed that the responsibility of maintaining this security and stability lies with the countries in the area, which must remain free of international struggles.

The two leaders expressed deep anxiety over the development of the Middle East situation, where a serious hotbed, threatening the areas stability and security and harming world balance and peace, still exists. They stressed the fact that a comprehensive settlement of this situation, in which all concerned parties must participate, is the only means of ending it.

After each side reviewed its public stand on the Middle East issue, both sides expressed their agreement that the lasting and just settlement of this issue should be based on UN resolutions, which call for Israeli withdrawal from all the Arab territories occupied since 1967. They also stressed the need to recognize the real nature of the Palestinian cause, which is the core of the Middle East dispute and which should not be considered an issue of refugees but an issue of a people who have the right to live as a people and to determine their fate in their homeland within the framework of the comprehensive peace settlement.

The two sides expressed their appreciation of the strengthening dialog between Arab and EEC countries and of the efforts exerts to render it a success and to achieve its objectives, represented in the development and prosperity of the European continent and the progress and prosperity of the Arab world. They stressed the importance of exchanging views on the establishment of a dialog between the EEC and Arab Gulf countries and on the French proposal concerning the establishment of a tripartite dialog among Arab, European and African countries.

The two sides expressed their agreement on the need to establish a new just economic order, which will be based on integration and solidarity among the world's countries and which will solve international economic problems in a way that will insure equitable mutual benefits.

In dealing with bilateral relations, the two leaders expressed satisfaction with thei. development in the economic sphere, particularly in hydrocarbons and petrochemicals. They expressed a joint desire to develop and strengthen this cooperation and expressed happiness at recent Qatari Government decisions in this respect.

The two parties agreed that the important industrial projects being implemented or planned by the Qatari Government will provide numerous and important prospects, particularly in the exploitation and production of gas and the desalinization and provision of water.

The two sides also agreed to establish new bilateral cooperation in agriculture and energy. Two agreements were signed for this purpose. The French president and the amir of Qatar expressed their satisfaction with the development of bilateral cultural relations, based on the cultural cooperation agreement concluded by the two countries on 22 October 1977. They also expressed satisfaction with the success of cultural cooperation, particularly with the University of Qatar, and praised the developing medical cooperation and the noticeable progress achieved in other fields.

The two sides expressed the desire to achieve greater results within the framework of the new areas opened during his excellency the French president's visit. The leaders of the two countries expressed satisfaction with the results obtained and with the opportunity to exchange views provided by the visit. They agreed to continue meetings between the two countries leaders and officials, for consultations on the best methods of strengthening the bases of bilateral cooperation.

His excellency the French guest thanked his highness the amir of Qatar, the Qatari people and government for the warm welcome he and his accompanying delegation were accorded during their visit to the State of Qatar. His excellency the French president invited his highness the amir of Qatar to visit the French Republic. His highness accepted the invitation with thanks and promised to respond to the invitation as soon as possible.

GOVERNMENT DISPUTES BAHRAINI CLAIMS ON HAWAR ISLANDS

NC041547 Doha QNA in Arabic 1315 GMT 4 Mar 80 NC

[Excerpt] Doha, 4 March--The Qatari oil and finance minister, His Excellency Shaykh 'Abd al-Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani, has emphasized that geography, history, law and logic clearly prove that the Hawar Islands constitute an indivisible part of Qatar because they lie within Qatar's territorial waters and are less than 1 mile away from its coast.

His excellency said Bahrain had no basis for its claim that the Hawar Islands came under its sovereignty other than a 1939 British decision, which he said was completely void because it contravened the basic international legal principles governing the subject as well as the clear material, geographical and historical facts.

In his statement, the Qatari oil and finance minister was commenting on a statement published by the Bahraini newspaper AL-ADQA' on Saturday that was attributed to Bahraini Industry and Development Minister Yusuf ash-Shirawi. In the statement, Ash-Shirawi said "the Hawar Islands come under a concession concluded 10 years ago with U.S. companies, which drilled two experimental wells but did not obtain any encouraging results and are now in the process of drilling a third well."

In his comments to the Qatari newspaper AR-RAYAH, published today, Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani said: In his statement, Ash-Shirawi went to the furthest extremes to ignore the bilateral dispute over the Hawar Islands. He also ignored the mediation that was agreed on and that is now being undertaken by a major fraternal state to reach a solution to this dispute.

His excellency expressed deep regret over such a statement by Ash-Shirawi "particularly given the delicate conditions through which our area is passing--conditions that require all of us to avoid anything that will harm our completely serene relations."

In his comment, the Qatari oil and finance minister affirmed Qatar's eagerness to safeguard its warm, fraternal relations with fraternal Bahrain. He expressed the hope that both countries would succeed in solving their only dispute in a manner that would restore rights on the bases of law justice, "which are the best and most lasting guarantee for the continuation of the best possible relations among fraternal states."

SAUDI FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL ARRIVES WITH MESSAGE

JN051526 Doha QNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 5 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Doha, 5 March--'Abd al-'Aziz ath-Thunayyan, under secretary of the Saudi Foreign Ministry, arrived in Doha from Saudi Arabia this afternoon on a short visit to Qatar. The Saudi official was met at Ad-Dawhah International Airport by Muhammad 'Abd ar-Rahman, under secretary of the Qatari Information Ministry, and Saudi ambassador in Doha His Excellency Muhammad Fahd al-'Isa.

The under secretary of the Saudi Foreign Ministry told QNA that he is carrying a message from His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia to his brother His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, the amir of the fraternal State of Qatar. He added that the message deals with the exchange of views and consultations on issues of common concern and relations between the two fraternal countries.

SAUDI ARABIA

JAPANESE SPECIAL ENVOY SONODA PAYS VISIT TO KINGDOM

Arrival Reported

OW020901 Tokyo KYODO in English 0407 GMT 2 Mar 80 OW

[Text] Riyadh March 1 KYODO--Former Japanese Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda arrived in Riyadh from Damascus Saturday for a visit to Saudi Arabia in the course of his tour of eight Middle East and Southwest Asian nations as the special envoy of Prime Minister Masayoshi Chira. He was greeted at the airport by Planning Minister Shaykh Misham Nazir and other officials.

Sonoda, who visited Saudi Arabia once before two years ago when he was foreign minister, is scheduled to hold meetings separately with Nazir and Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz on Sunday. He also plans to meet with Oil and Mineral Wealth Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani on Tuesday if Yamani, who is now making a visit to other countries, returns to (?Saudi Arabia) by then.

Sonoda already has visited the United Arab Emirates, Iraq, Oman and Syria. He is scheduled to leave Saudi Arabia for Pakistan on Tuesday.

Meets Prince Fahd

LD021122 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1035 GMT 2 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Riyadh, 2 March, SPA--His Royal Highness Amir Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister, received at 1300 today in his office Sunao Sonoda, special envoy of the Japanese prime minister. The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Amir Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister. The Japanese envoy arrived in Riyadh yesterday on a visit to the kingdom, in the course of a tour of a number of countries in the region.

Soviet Threat Discussed

OW030031 Tokyo KYODO in English 0012 GMT 3 Mar 80 OW

[Excerpts] Riyadh, March 2 KYODO--Japanese special envoy Sunao Sonoda and Saudi Arabian Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz agreed here Sunday on the necessity of an early achievement of Arab-Israel Middle East peace in order to prevent Soviet intervention in the area. The agreement came when Sonoda, former foreign minister called on Fahd for talks on international development and bilateral relations.

According to informed sources, both Sonoda and Fahd severely criticized the Soviet movements in Afghanistan and South Yemen.

The sources said that during the talks the Saudi prince carefully avoided criticizing Egypt for going into peace agreement with Israel alone. He noted that Israel will find a chance of its existence if it withdraws from all the territories it occupied during the 1967 war, they said.

On the Soviet movements, the sources said Sonoda told Fahd that Japan cannot condone the use of military forces for solution of any problem. Japan is thus deeply concerned about the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and its military deployment in South Yemen, Sonoda was quoted as saying.

The sources said Sonoda further explained to Fahd that Japan's basic diplomatic policy calls for respect to the right of the Palestinians to decide their own future, withdrawal of Israel from the occupied territories and mutual recognition of each other's stance between the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel.

Fahd appreciated the Sonoda's remarks and said that the solution to the Middle East problems, if delayed under the current international situation, would result in creating new complicated problems. The Soviet Union and its allies are the only countries which will benefit from such delay, Fahd was quoted as saying. He further expressed the hope that Japan will maintain its present policy toward the Middle East when it holds talks with the United States and West European countries. It is necessary for these countries to apply pressure on Israel to stop its current policy, he explained.

On the bilateral relations, the sources said Fahd expressed his understanding on the necessity of maintaining Saudi Arabia's oil supplies to Japan to keep good relations between the two countries.

Sonoda extended invitation to Fahd to visit Japan. He accepted it but refrained from fixing the date for the visit, according to the sources.

Press Conference

OW030115 Tokyo KYODO in English 0106 GMT 3 Mar 80 OW

[Excerpts] Riyadh, March 2 KYODO--Japanese special envoy Sunao Sonoda said here Sunday that he would ask Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira to visit Middle East countries before the next economic summit of the seven industrial powers in Italy in June. Sonoda said he would also recommend Foreign Minister Saburo Okita to visit the Middle East as frequently as possible in the future.

He made the remarks at a press conference after his talks with Saudi Arabian leaders in Riyadh, where he arrived Saturday on the fifth leg of his current Middle East and Southwest Asian countries as Ohira's special envoy.

Sonoda said that the tour has so far succeeded in laying the ground for Japan's constructive role for peace and prosperity of the Middle East area which, he said, would be vital in determining the political developments of the world in the 1980's. He said that Japan should make use of its political influence in contributing to early achievement of comprehensive, fair and long-lasting settlement for peace in the Middle East. Japanese cooperation for the development of the Middle East must center on the transfer of its technology to the countries in the area, Sonoda said.

He said that Japan's efforts to maintain good relations with the Middle East countries only with expectations for stable oil supplies should now be passe. Sonoda further said that Japan should play positive role in the Middle East peace efforts at the United Nations and other international arena.

Japan must feel free to make any recommendation and advice to the United States in efforts to achieve Middle East peace. The Mideast countries expect Japan's contribution on the basis of its close ties with the United States, he said.

Sonoda said he felt stronger wariness in the countries he visited against the Soviet movements. Efforts must be made in the future by Japan, the United States and European countries to find ways to answer the expectations of the Middle East countries, he added.

Meets Yamani

OW041245 Tokyo KYODO in English 1230 GMT 4 Mar 80 OW

[Text] Riyadh, March 4 KYODO--Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani indicated Tuesday that he would work so that a steady oil supply to Japan may be ensured. Yamani gave the indication at a meeting with Japanese special envoy to the Mideast Sunao Sonoda Tuesday at his office.

The minister said in response to a request by Sonoda for a steady oil supply, "I would endeavor so that the envoy's tour will turn out to be fruitful." The two discussed oil and Mideast peace problems for about an hour.

Yamani warned that another international oil crisis could occur amid no oil surplus whatever, [as received] and that the crisis would be more serious than any oil crisis so far. The minister thus stressed the need for oil consuming states to work further for oil conservation and the development of alternative energy sources.

Yamani also urged oil consuming countries to refrain from buying oil on the spot market.

Ends Visit

LD041322 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1100 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Riyadh, 4 March--Sunao Sonoda, special envoy of the Japanese prime minister, left Riyadh at noon today at the end of his 3-day visit to the kingdom during which he held talks with senior officials on cooperation between the kingdom and Japan in all spheres. He was seen off at the airport by Saudi Planning Minister Shaykh Hisham Nazir.

Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani met this morning with Sonoda and discussed energy cooperation between the two countries.

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM BONN 5 MAR

LD051112 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0613 GMT 5 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Riyadh--His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister returned at dawn this morning to Riyadh from Bonn after a 2-day visit to West Germany. During this visit his royal highness had talks with German officials which dealt with the developments of the situation in the Middle East and the Afghan crisis.

PRESS REGRETS U.S. RETRACTION OF UN VOTE

LD051118 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0500 GMT 5 Mar 80 LD

[Excerpts] Riyadh--The kingdom's papers today devote their attention to America's retraction of its decision denouncing and opposing the establishment of Jewish settlements in occupied Arab territories. They describe the matter as extremely regrettable, painful and sorrowful.

Under the headline, "A Great Disappointment in American Retraction" AL-MADINAH expresses its astonishment at the U.S. decision to retract condemnation of the establishment of Jewish settlements in occupied Arab territories. The paper says that America's stance, if it truly leads the free world, ought to be one of frank and clear condemnation, denunciation and opposition to the question of settlements. The paper makes it clear that this retraction shows the extent of Zionist influence on the adoption of U S. decisions. It describes this retraction as "a regrettable, painful and sorrowful matter" especially as regard America's friends in the Arab world. The paper expresses its regret at the American retraction which submitted to Zionist pressures. It stresses that the countries of the world unanimously denounce the question of Jewish settlements in the occupied Arab territories.

UAE

REPORTAGE ON TALKS WITH FRENCH PRESIDENT

President Zayid's Statement

JN051431 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1345 GMT 5 Mar 80 JN

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 5 March--UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan hosted an official luncheon today in honor of French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing in the Meridian Hotel in Abu Dhabi. In an exclusive statement to the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY on the occasion of the visit French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing is making to the UAE and which began today, UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan spoke about the importance of this meeting, the actual cooperation existing between the UAE and France and the expected expansion and development of this cooperation.

His highness the UAE president said: We look forward to our talks with President Giscard d'Estaing with a friendly spirit because contacts among friends always pave the way for further achievements aspired to by the two sides. His highness added: At any rate, there is benefit for both sides because the two sides pin high hopes on this meeting.

His Highness Shaykh Zayid affirmed that cooperation between France and the UAE is not new. It is a developing cooperation in various fields, reflecting the friendship of years between the two sides. I ask God to grant us success in realizing the aspirations of our nation and our friends.

Concluding his statement, his highness the UAE president said: This visit will bolster the dialog between us and France and our friends in Europe. It is the duty of all of us to seek to strengthen this dialog so that it can attain its objectives.

Meeting Begins

JN051907 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1835 GMT 5 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 5 March--A closed session of official talks between UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing began in Abu Dhabi today. No official comment was made in Abu Dhabi on the nature of the talks between the two sides, which lasted 75 minutes.

Talks on the ministerial level between the UAE and France began later. On the UAE side, the talks were attended by Deputy Prime Minister Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad Al Nuhayyan, Finance and Industry Minister Hamdan ibn Rashid ibn Sa'id al-Maktum, Foreign Minister Ahmad Khalifah as-Suwaydi, Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Dr Mani' Sa'id al-Utaybah, Information and Culture Minister Ahmad ibn Hamid Al Nuhayyan, Communications Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Mulla, Education and Youth Minister Sa'id Salman, Agriculture and Fisheries Minister Sa'id ar-Raqbani, and UAE charge d'affaires in France Khamis al-Wamithi. On the French side, the talks were attended by Foreign Affairs Minister Jean Francois-Poncet, Industry Minister Andre Giraud, Foreign Trade Minister Jean-Francois Deniau, Culture and Communication Minister Jean-Philippe Lecat, French ambassador to the UAE Jean-Claude Guisset, and a number of advisers in the French president's office and the Foreign Ministry.

Following the talks, an official source stated that the two sides reviewed ways to bolster bilateral relations and promote cooperation in various areas particularly in the economic, trade and development fields. The two sides discussed developments in the Arab issue, the Middle East crisis, France's role in supporting the Arab issue, and several international issues of common interest.

The two sides will resume their discussions on the ministerial level later this evening.

French Spokesman's Remarks

JN051943 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1910 GMT 5 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 5 March--The official spokesman of the French delegation has expressed his satisfaction with the results of the talks between French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing and UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan. He said: The talks demonstrated the two countries' agreement and identical viewpoints on various international issues.

French spokesman (Jacques Bleu) has told the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY that the discussions between the two presidents dealt with major issues of interest to the two countries; namely, the Middle East problem, security and stability in the Gulf area and Afghanistan. The talks also dealt with bilateral relations.

(Mr Bleu) pointed out that the French president expressed his happiness over the fact that His Highness Shaykh Zayid is the first Arab leader to support the idea of a three-sided dialog among the Arab, European and African countries.

MINISTER RETURNS, SAYS AFRICAN TOUR 'SUCCESSFUL'

NC022112 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 2020 GMT 2 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 2 March--UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah returned to Abu Dhabi this evening after leading an Arab League delegation to six African states to explain developments in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

In a statement to the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY upon his return, Rashid 'Abdallah said that the tour was successful and that the delegation found the heads of the states they visited quite responsive and understanding. He said the African leaders emphasized that they would not restore their relations with Israel unless it withdrew from all the occupied Arab territories and recognized the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people.

He added that the African leaders also confirmed that they would continue to support the Arabs and their just causes, especially the Palestine cause because they consider the Palestine problem to be the core of the Middle East conflict and believe that there can be no just and lasting peace unless the Palestine problem is solved.

He noted that the African leaders underscored the importance of Arab-African cooperation and the need for direct Arab-African dialog to strengthen cooperation in all domains.

The African leaders, he said, also stressed the need for Arab-African solidarity against imperialist schemes in the region, and particularly against the cooperation between the racist regime in South Africa and the racist colonialist regime in Israel.

The Arab League delegation visited Niger, Senegal, Mali, Guinea, the Ivory Coast and Benin.

YAR

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM TUNISIA 5 MAR

JN051401 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Mar 80 JN

[Excerpt] Dr Hassan Makki, deputy prime minister for foreign affairs and foreign minister, returned to San'a' from Tunisia at an early hour this morning, after having attended the meetings of the Arab foreign ministers there.

GHALI RECEIVES REPORT ON U.S. RETRACTION

NC051720 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1647 GMT 5 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 5 March--During a telephone call today with Egyptian Ambassador in Washington Dr Ashraf Ghurbal, minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Butrus Ghali, obtained a detailed report on the circumstances involved in the voting on the UN Security Council resolution condemning the Israeli settlements in the occupied territory and on the U.S. position on this resolution.

The report came in the wake of an important contact that Ashraf Ghurbal had with U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and other U.S. figures.

Dr Butrus Ghali is expected to receive another report on the U.S. position from Egypitian permanent representative to the United Nations Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid.

Dr Butrus Ghali will prepare a comprehensive appraisal of the situation on the basis of these two reports and will submit it to prime minister and foreign minister, Dr Mustafa Khalil, when he returns to Cairo on Friday.

AL-AHRAM WELCOMES U.S. SECURITY COUNCIL VOTE

LD051619 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 3 Mar 80 p 7 LD

[Editorial: "The American Stand in the Security Council"]

[Text] If Israel has been attempting to interpret Palestinian rights and the steps to be taken to realize these rights, starting with autonomy, in a spirit diverging from the spirit of the two Camp David agreements, then the U.S. Security Council vote in favor of the draft resolution condemning Israel's settlement policy in the occupied Arab territories is a reassertion of the true content of the two Camp David agreements, because the United States is a full partner in these agreements.

The point is that there are no two concepts for autonomy--one Egyptian and one Israeli: there is only one concept, to which Israel has been trying to give a special interpretation diverging from the spirit of the two Camp David agreements. This is what U.S. Security Council delegate McHenry meant when he said that the Camp David agreements and the talks on autonomy for the Palestinians provided a good basis for the establishment of a comprehensive and just peace. He also emphasized the importance of resolving the Palestinian issue, because it is the basis of the conflict in the area, adding that the United States considers the Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories illegal under international law.

That is the true significance of President Carter's direct instructions to the American delegate to vote in favor of the draft resolution. Egypt participated in the formation of this draft resolution, which condemns the Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories and calls on Israel to halt the settlement operations, which aim at changing the geographic and demographic nature of the West Bank and Gaza.

There is no doubt that this resolution and the U.S. vote in favor of it constitute a measure whose significance Israel ought to understand, so that it will be possible to implement the Camp David agreements fully and achieve a lasting, comprehensive and just peace.

ISRAELI AMBASSADOR MEETS WITH VICE PRESIDENT MUBARAK 5 MAR

TA051845 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 5 Mar 80 TA

[Text] Today Israel's ambassador to Cairo, Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, met with the Egyptian Vice President Husni Mubarak. The meeting today was the first between the two since Dr Ben-Elisar took up his post as ambassador.

'ALI DISCUSSES PEACE TREATY, U.S. ARMS TO EGYPT

TA291123 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 20 Feb 80 p 2 TA

[Interview with Egyptian Defense Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali by Arab affairs correspondent Semadar Peri at the end of the former's visit to Israel--time and place not given]

[Text] Question: In the wake of events in Afghanistan, Iran, Yemen and the awakening of certain sensitivities in Africa--could you assess the Soviet threat to the Middle East?

Answer: Egypt's position is unambiguous and clear-cut: A severe Soviet menace is threatening the entire Middle East and not just Egypt. We know that the Soviets are acting in several spheres:

--Near the Soviet borders--and the best example for it is Afghanistan. The Soviet interest there focuses on the wish to cut the link of the Arabian Gulf, to the oil region. We can also mention here the hidden fingers operating in Iran and playing in Southeast Asia. All this is very clear and known to us.

--The Soviets are using another method, through which they hope to acquire influence in some of the Middle East countries, under the pretext of being the sole defender of the Palestinian problem and the only protector of Arab rights and the Middle East problem.

--The third Soviet direction of activities in our area is located in the region stretching from North Africa down to the Horn of Africa, South Yemen and North Yemen. This is the fear belt which the Soviets are trying to tighten around the Middle East.

Question: Is the Soviet aspiration to gain influence in the Middle East regarded in Egypt as a threat to its security?

Answer: Certainly, both to Egypt and all the countries of the Middle East. The Soviets have assorted weapons to carry out their activities.

Question: Are you in Egypt concerned by Soviet involvement in Libya?

Answer: The Soviets have intervened in Libya. Over a long period of time, we discovered that they were trying to infiltrate into Central Africa, Chad and Uganda. However, they were defeated there. The Soviets are trying to strengthen themselves and spread their tentacles through their hold in North Yemen and South Yemen.

Question: How must we in Israel view the fact that the Egyptian Army is being equipped with sophisticated aircraft and military equipment after signing a peace treaty with Egypt?

Answer: This is a most natural thing. The Israelis must regard Egypt's acquiring of modern weapons as a most natural thing. We are preparing ourselves to confront any of the dangers I mentioned above. According to this conception, it is only logical that after ending the state of war with Israel and after normalization has been realized we would prepare ourselves against the dangers threatening Egypt.

This should not be regarded as an arms race between Egypt and Israel. Egypt's arms purchases are not intended against Israel. We do not regard U.S. equipment reaching Israel as intended against us either. On the contrary, both countries should prepare themselves to confront other menaces. Therefore, the Israeli or Egyptian citizen should harbor no doubts whatsoever. This is the situation, and I suggest that Israelis regard it in the same manner.

Question: What progress did you make regarding Israeli-Egyptian relations in your visit ending today?

Answer: Progress has been made on the main purpose of the visit: normalization. Four subcommittees were active and conducted negotiations. I expect an agreement to be signed shortly and a joint communique to be issued.

Question: What are the difficulties in implementing normalization on a day-to-day basis?

Answer: The truth is that I cannot point to specific difficulties. In the past, there were difficulties whenever either side did not understand or was not aware of the laws prevalent in the other country in various fields. However, we found out that whenever care is taken to explain details of customary rules and regulations maximum, understanding can be reached. This is a good meeting point and a basis for fruitful debates. Which will help both sides to demonstrate flexibility.

Question: You are talking about different laws in Israel and Egypt. Could you give an example?

Answer: It would not be fair to demand that Israel change its laws to give preference or special treatment to Egypt. The relations between our two countries will be similar to yours or our relations with the United States or Britain. For example: We favor an "open door" policy as far as economic investment is concerned. However, we will not go out of our way to give Israel a special status.

Question: During your visit here you visited the aircraft industry plants. You watched the production lines of the "Kfir" and the "Arava." Does Egypt have any plans to purchase Kfirs from Israel?

Answer: The purchase of aircraft is the most expensive item in the security budget of every country. In order to carry out those purchases, we need loans and financing from rich countries. Our armament is possible as long as we receive the F-15's and F-16's from the United States.

In my opinion, cooperation between Egypt and Israel is definitely possible. However, it depends on achieving full autonomy and a solution to the Palestinian problem. When this stage has been reached, wide strategic cooperation between Egypt and Israel will become feasible.

And now I will say something exceptional and new: I believe that both countries will be able to produce new, sophisticated and cheaper aircraft from those existing now as well as other military equipment by using Israel's and Egypt's abilities. As said, all this depends on the solution of the Palestinian problem and on reaching a comprehensive solution in the Middle East.

Question: Before your visit to Israel, there were rumors that Egypt will ask Israel to accelerate its withdrawal from the Sinai and to complete the second stage of the evacuation earlier.

Answer: The agreement states that the second stage of the withdrawal should be completed within 2 to 3 years. This is a question of minimum and maximum time. We will not demand that Israel withdraw sooner than 2 years. However, we will view it as a gesture if Israel evacuates the Sinai after 2 years and 2 months or 2 and 1/2 years.

I am aware of Israel's problems concerning the construction of the new airbases and locating new homes for the residents of Yamit. I even know about the problem of the profitability of the hotels in Sharm ash-Shaykh. We will welcome any Israeli withdrawal before the maximum date while taking your problems into consideration.

Question: Today, 2 years after the historical visit of President as-Sadat to Jerusalem and 11 months after the signing of the Camp David accords, is this a formal agreement signed between As-Sadat and Begin or between those executing it, Kamal Hasan 'Ali and 'Ezer Weizman, or is this truly full peace between the two nations?

Answer: This peace is definitely not an agreement signed between Prime Minister Begin and President as-Sadat, not the good relationship between Minister 'Ezer Weizman and myself. President as-Sadat and Prime Minister Begin are reserved the right of having taken the first step. Ministers 'Ali and Weizman are the implementors, those pushing the peace cart.

However, after it was approved by the members of the Knesset and the members of the Egyptian Parliament, the peace treaty became part and parcel of both countries, both governments and, especially, both peoples. I see the responsibility of Ministers 'Ali and Weizman, as the representatives of the two countries, as carrying out the will of the two nations.

FORMER GENERAL EXAMINES PURPOSE OF U.S. ARMS PURCHASE

LD031545 Algiers ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 20 Feb 80 p 5 LD

[Article by former Egyptian Chief of Staff Lt Gen Sa'd ad-Din ash-Shadhili: "Egypt and U.S. Arms" reprinted from Paris biweekly AL-IHYA' AL-'ARABI and published in part by Kuwait AL-WATAN on 19 February]

[Excerpts] On Friday 2 February 1980 the As-Sadat regime's defense minister, Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali, held a press conference in Cairo in which he announced that the United States will supply Egypt with sophisticated weapons, including U.S. F-16 aircraft and M-60 tanks. The Western media publicized this report as if it were good news in order to influence the Egyptians who vacillate between supporting and opposing As-Sadat's regime.

Our strategic reading of the Egyptian situation and the Arab situation in general and also of U.S. strategy in the Middle East proves to us that this is a misleading report. The fact that this report was circulated at a time when Brzezinski was visiting Pakistan and later Saudi Arabia clearly indicates that the United States, As-Sadat and Israel agreed to release this report with the aim of creating the greatest confusion possible in the Arab ranks. Therefore, I must discuss and examine this report in the light of U.S. strategy in the Middle East.

The Identity of Israel's Strategy with As-Sadat's

Kamal Hassan said that U.S. strategy in the area is identical to Egypt's strategy, but he does not disclose this U.S. and Egyptian strategy, or, more precisely, As-Sadat's strategy. Studying the U.S. and As-Sadat's strategy in the area needs no intelligence because it is spelled out in actions and attitudes and elucidated in words that even the blind and the deaf can register. The United States is the creator of Israel and the source of its life and strength. The Zionist Americans and the Zionists in Israel during the past 30 years have been able to link U.S. strategy to Israeli strategy to the point that they have been identical. Recently, As-Sadat, in cooperation with Zionist Americans such as Kissinger, Brown and Rockefeller, has been able to link Egyptian strategy to U.S. strategy also to the point of their becoming identical, as Kamal Hasan 'Ali said at his press conference. Which means that the United States, As-Sadat and Israel are now in one camp. But this leads us to the question: Do all members of the camp enjoy equal rights? We will answer this in the following discussion:

U.S. Strategy in the Middle East

The U.S. strategy in the Middle East can be summed up in two principal objectives: The first is insure the flow of Arab oil to the United States and the West and the second is to expel Soviet influence from the area or reduce it to the minimum while linking the Egyptian economy to the Western economy so that it will become a market for U.S. and Western products. To achieve these objectives the United States resorts to the following means:

First, Israel. It is wrong to believe that the close ties between the United States and Israel are merely the result of Zionist pressure by American Jews on U.S. political and economic institutions. There is no doubt that the American Zionists have played a significant role in strengthening these ties but their greater success has been to link U.S. strategy with Israeli strategy. Therefore, the Arabs must understand that the United States does not support and back Israel against the Arabs merely to win Jewish votes and financial backing in the presidential and congressional elections but because it believes that such support serves U.S. interests and strategy in the area.

Israel is the U.S. policeman in the area. A powerful Israel can achieve U.S. objectives in the area if the United States has failed to achieve them by other means. We must recall that half U.S. aid goes to Israel and the other half to the rest of the world's countries. These funds enable Israel to continue to occupy Arab lands and build settlements on them. Declared U.S. strategy is to supply Israel with sophisticated weapons in order to be able to crush its Arab neighbors when the United States so chooses.

Second, alliance with regimes hostile to the Soviet Union. The attempt to scare the inhabitants of the Arab area with communism and the Russian bear is an old game which the United States and the West have played against the people of the area since the twenties. Some rulers of the area willingly accepted this bait while others did so out of ignorance. This situation prevailed until 'Abd an-Nasir came and exposed the game.

'Abd an-Nasir succeeded in building bridges between Egypt and the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union stood on Egypt's side and supported it politically, economically and militarily even at a time when he was throwing Egyptian communists in fail, which did not effect relations between the two countries. Thus the Nasirite experiment proved that the Russian bear is not the terrible bugaboo which U.S. propaganda has depicted. As a result, contacts between the Soviet Union and peoples of the area increased year after year and the Nasirite experiment was copied in many world countries which were under Western colonialism or in the sphere of its influence.

As-Sadat then appeared on the scene and declared his hostility to the Soviet Union. The United States welcomed this decision and accepted him in the club of the enemies of the Soviet Union. But his admission to the club raised an important logical question. As-Sadat's regime is nondemocratic and does not represent the Egyptian people's will and it is therefore not unlikely that there will be a military coup against him. What will happen if the United States goes a long way in providing this regime with sophisticated weapons and this regime falls and the weapons fall into the hands of the new leaders who might use them against Israel or against U.S. interests in the area? This perplexing question has been asked since 1974 and is still being asked. This question has been a basic factor in the policy of supplying arms to Egypt. The fall of the shah in Iran and of Somoza in Nicaragua confirmed U.S. and Israeli fears.

In order to reconcile these fears and the need to support friends the U.S. policy of arms supplies has become governed by many controls and restrictions that would insure the use of these weapons against the Soviet Union in the Middle East and Africa without posing a danger to the security and safety of Israel should As-Sadat's regime suddenly fall.

Within this equation the Pentagon people determine the quantity and quality of weapons sent to Egypt. There is absolutely no objection to Egypt having one squadron of Phantoms if Israel has scores of squadrons of the same type or better. After all, a plane is no more than a flying platform which is useless if not equipped with rockets, machineguns and sophisticated electronic equipment. Therefore, if the United States is in control of the quantity and quality of such weapons then it can control aircraft combat decisions. Consequently, there is absolutely no objection to supplying Egypt with a number of Sidewinder missiles with a speed of Mach 2.5 and a range of 10 kilometers if the United States supplies Israel with Sparrow missiles with a speech of Mach 3.5 and a range of 50 kilometers. The weapons supplied to Egypt might be effective against an Arab or an African country but cannot pose a danger to Israel. In addition to the control the United States has over the quantity and quality of weapons, it also has control over maintenance and servicing through its control of spare parts and servicing of the military equipment and weapons.

To sum up, the United States will supply Egypt with military weapons and equipment but the quantity and quality of these weapons and equipment cannot pose a danger to Israel even if As-Sadat's regime falls. For this reason As-Sadat and his defense minister are avoiding any mention of the details of these weapons or delivery dates although such information is being discussed in the Israeli and Western press.

It is not certain, therefore, that the United States is preparing As-Sadat to be the policeman of the area acting on its orders because the U.S. policeman in the area has been and still is Israel. As for As-Sadat and his regime, they are no more than an auxiliary policeman wearing police uniforms without having the coercive capabilities of a policeman; in other words, they are like the black soldiers in the racist Rhodesian and South African armies.

Third, the U.S. deterrent force. With the increasing fighting capability of the Middle Eastern countries the United States decided to back Israel and As-Sadat regime by announcing the formation of a 110,000 strong U.S. deterrent force capable of moving rapidly to any part of the world.

In order to be able to intervene with the U.S. deterrent force there is a need for forward bases for the stationing of these forces. It is impossible for these forces to land in the area of conflict directly from the United States. Supposing that the area of conflict is the Gulf, these forces need a gathering point to be used as a springboard only a few hundred kilometers from the center of conflict. All the Arab countries have announced their refusal to give such facilities to U.S. intervention, with the exception of Qabus of Oman, As-Sadat of Egypt and Barre of Somalia. Thus while Egypt and Somalia can be the rear bases Oman can provide the forward base for such an American intervention. We absolutely should not rule out the possibility of the U.S. intervention taking place with total coordination with Israel and Egypt with the aim of creating confusion in the Arab area and thus preventing the Arab countries from giving aid to the country under threat.

Whether U.S. intervention is with the U.S. deterrent force alone or with the cooperation of Egypt and Israel, it would be the most dangerous game the United States could play because it might prompt certain Arab countries to seek assistance from the Soviet Union. There is no doubt that the Soviet Union would respond to such a call and, therefore, the Soviet Union would become even more entrenched in the area, which is quite contrary to the U.S. objective. The United States realizes that to intervene militarily in the area is the worst solution and therefore it will always avoid it although it will continue brandishing it.

AL-AHRAM: ARMING NATION IS NECESSARY FOR PEACE

LD291645 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 27 Feb 80 p 7 LD

[Editorial: "Arming Egypt Is Necessary for Peace"]

[Text] The United States declared the day before yesterday that it will supply Egypt with 40 F-16 aircraft and 350 M-60 tanks. This announcement came a few hours after Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin's statement calling for launching in the U.S. Congress and among the U.S. public opinion a large-scale campaign against the decision to supply American arms to Egypt.

This announcement by the United States on details of the deal is in itself a practical answer to the Israeli prime minister's statements and a clear support for Egypt's stand on which it has based its demand for these arms. This stand is that if peace is the desired objective to be achieved in the area, then one of the elements by which such stability can be achieved is by keeping Egypt strong, armed, and suitably ready and capable of repelling any existing or potential threats. It is politically naive to imagine that peace needs no preparation and that the desired peace has no enemies who might want to do away with it.

Those who think and dream of peace must look at the arms supplies and the types of arms being received by countries with small population and which greatly exceed their needs. They must ask themselves what the purpose is of these large arms supplies which the Soviet Union is providing to some of these states which are not involved on any battlefronts.

U.S. State Department Spokesman Hodding Carter was right in saying that the program to arm Egypt meets the need of a friendly state committed to the cause of peace in the area and which has major defense obligations. This shows a true understanding of Egypt's stand and commitments which it has to honor. As we have often said before, peace has many enemies and only the strong can protect peace. Strength today does not lie in poems or in mere enthusiasm; but means armament and forces at the ready. This is what Egypt is achieving.

MUSTAFA KHALIL VIEWS MIDEAST ISSUES, GISCARD REMARKS IN PARIS

For reportage on Mustafa Khalil's visit to Paris, see the France section of the 6 March Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

LOAN AGREEMENT INITIALED WITH DENMARK 5 MAR

NC051400 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1230 GMT 5 Mar 80 NC

[Excerpts] Cairo, 5 March--Egypt and Denmark signed today an agreement for a loan amounting to 80 million Danish kroner--about 10 million Egyptian pounds, repayable in 25 years and interest-free and a 7-year period of grace.

The agreement was signed for the Egyptian side by 'Abd al-'Aziz Zuhdi, under secretary of the Ministry of Economy, Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation, and for the Danish side by the Danish ambassador in Cairo, Mr Korsgaard-Pedersen.

Under the agreement, the loan will be used for food security projects, enabling the importation of agricultural equipment, the establishment of cold storage warehouses, ice-making plants and an automated slaughterhouse. This is the seventh in a series of loans granted by Denmark to Egypt since 1969, the total amount of which is 330 million kroner or approximately 41 million Egyptian pounds.

RCC VICE CHAIRMAN, JORDAN'S HASAN HOLD CLOSED TALKS

JN060946 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0930 GMT 6 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 6 March--RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim and Jordanian Crown Prince Hasan held a closed meeting today. It has been learned that during the meeting, a discussion was concluded on ways of bolstering joint Arab action, in light of the region's developments and the fraternal ties existing between the two states in all fields.

'Izzat Ibrahim and Crown Prince Hasan then made a tour of the city of Baghdad, during which they visited the Sahrawardi Mosque and Al-Mustansariyah School.

ROMANIAN ENVOY DISCUSSES AFGHANISTAN, OTHER ISSUES WITH PRESIDENT

JN031433 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1420 GMT 3 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 3 March--President Saddam Husayn received here today Vasile Pungan, Romanian minister of state and President Nicolae Ceausescu's personal envoy. The Romanian envoy conveyed a verbal message to President Saddam Husayn from President Nicolae Ceausescu dealing with the most significant developments in the current situation.

During the 2-hour meeting, the discussion centered on the situation in the Arab area, Afghanistan, European security and relations between Iraq and Romania. The two sides agreed to develop bilateral relations. President Saddam Husayn outlined Iraq's foreign policy which is based on the principles of nonalinement and complete independence. The Romanian envoy reaffirmed President Ceausescu's invitation to President Saddam Husayn to visit Romania. The meeting was attended by RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim, Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi and the Romanian ambassador in Baghdad.

The Romanian envoy arrived in Baghdad last night.

Concludes Visit

GF041805 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 3 Mar 80 GF

[Text] Vasile Pyngan, Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu's personal envoy to President Saddam Husayn and minister of state, left Baghdad today at the end of a 1-day visit to Iraq. The Romanian minister of state lauded the results of his talks with President Saddam Husayn, which dealt with various aspects of bilateral relations.

He was seen off at the airport by Minister of State 'Aziz Rashid and the Romanian ambassador in Baghdad.

TRADE DELEGATION RETURNS FROM MOSCOW

JN051810 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1725 GMT 5 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 5 March--Mahdi Muhsin 'Awdah, Iraqi trade ministry under secretary, returned here from Moscow tonight after heading the Iraqi side to the meetings of the Iraqi-Soviet joint committee.

During the meetings, the two sides signed joint minutes for trade for 1980 and the promotion of Iraqi exports to the Soviet Union. The two sides agreed to diversify Soviet exports to Iraq and took the necessary measures to solve trade problems prior to the conclusion of several contracts related to exports.

COMMENTARY SAYS KHOMEYNI ENABLES U.S. TO FIND FOOTHOLD IN GULF

JN041804 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 4 Mar 80 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Some 1,800 U.S. Marines have left a U.S. base in the Philippines for the Arabian Sea to reinforce the U.S. concentration of forces in the region. This move comes 1 day after the announcement that the headquarters of the U.S. rapid intervention forces has been opened. Thus, the United States is stressing that its stand toward the situation in the Arab region is that of insistence on the policy of aggression and the search for military bases, particularly in the Arab Gulf region.

This policy, which was totally rejected for several years by most of the region's states, has become a fait accompli represented by that massive presence of U.S. naval vessels in the Arab Gulf, the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean.

It should be said that the United States could not have achieved these aims had it not been for the haphazard Iranian policy and the Iranian leaders' thoughtlessness and recklessness regarding the interests of the region's peoples and stability. The United States will remain indebted to Khomeyni personally and to his regime for giving it that precious opportunity to concentrate its naval fleet under the pretext of protecting the life of the U.S. hostages in its embassy in Tehran.

The neutral observer cannot ignore the news reports about the U.S. soldiers' departure from the Philippines without due thought because U.S.-Iranian relations are passing through a stage of fast recuperation after a period of alleged differences. The objective of these differences ended as soon as the United States succeeded in creating the idea inside and outside the United States that the U.S. forces were very close to military intervention in Iran. It was eventually made clear that Iran was not a target because the United States has such influence and such a role inside the ruling Iranian hierarchy that made it dispense with intervention. This was emphasized by the announcements made on the connection of several chief Iranian leaders with the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

If relations between Washington and Tehran show improvement, especially after the formation of the international investigation commission, the observer wonders about the motives of sending U.S. reinforcements to the Arabian Sea. The real aim is to achieve the strategic U.S. objective of establishing a dynamic military presence in the Arab Gulf region, which is considered by the United States as a vital region for its interests because of the oil and the opposition of the area to the Camp David accords.

The United States has managed to obtain an ideal chance through fabrication of a quarrel with Iran. It has achieved an objective which it could not have achieved without Khomeyni's policies and his suspect connection with the U.S. strategy.

It is true that the United States can make the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan another reason for this new move, but this does not coincide with the fact that the process of concentrating U.S. forces in the region began 2 months before the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. Some aspects of this process were revealed as early as 1973, but no one dared to welcome the U.S. presence or justify it until Khomeyni, expressing total ignorance and political shallowness, came to show the United States the shortcut to the region. He has enabled the United States to achieve its strategic dream of finding footholds in the Arab Gulf region and the Indian Ocean.

BAGHDAD RADIO CRITICIZES ARABS FRIENDLY WITH IRAN

JN052040 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1615 GMT 5 Mar 80 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] We emphasized in an earlier talk that the Iranian rulers are now following the stands and policies of the former shah. We have repeatedly said that the one in power today is but a turbaned shah. Otherwise, would it really be possible for two genuine revolutions to contradict each other? The Iraqi revolution is known for its clear and frank hostility to all forms of supremacy and economic hegemony, a fact known to all friends and enemies even if some pretend otherwise. The age and achievements of this revolution are enough to silence all mouths that try to say something other than the truth. This leads us to conclude that the accusations and allegations launched by the new Iranian rulers' trumpets against Iraq serve only to condemn those rulers and their arrogance and to acquit the Iraqi revolution and its nobility and strength which it derives from our people's free will.

Among the evidence showing that nothing has changed in Iran, that those now in power are the same as the past rulers and that the drum we hear now is the same only with a new drummer, is the stand of those rulers toward the Gulf issue and their continuous occupation of the three Arab islands which were occupied during the shah's reign. At that time, the Arab nation was in a situtation that did not allow it to resist the occupation because it was seriously engaged in coping with more dangerous issues. Today's rulers in Tehran are going further. They are arranging an organized settlement campaign in the three islands in an attempt to Persianize them.

In this regard, we ask whether the Arab nation has ever constituted a threat to Iran in the past or the present? What is the excuse for those rulers behaving with the same mentality of the Zionist enemy and following the same scheme the Zionists are implementing in the occupied Arab territories to further entrench their occupation? Isn't there a possibility that the continuous Iranian occupation of the Arab islands may turn into a future struggle similar to the Arab-Zionist struggle over Palestine?

In addition to this issue, which exposes the Tehran rulers' antagonism to all Arabs, how can we explain this criminal and tendentious campaign launched by Khomeyni's choir against Iraq under various covers? Will this stand toward Iraq serve the Arabs, although Khomeyni and his midgets are flirting with some of them? They know very well that Iraq has become the greatest power in the Arab area, especially in the eastern part, since As-Sadat regime's deviation from the Arab ranks.

In fact, some of our brethren are to be blamed for exchanging friendly toasts with Khomeyni's regime. However, we don't intend to discuss such a subject because members of the one family can calmly solve any problem. Although the mentioning of this subject is incidental, such censure is permissible within the one family.

We stress that paralyzing or distracting Iraq is a service offered by the new Iranian rulers to the imperialist-Zionist allies. It resembles the same service the shah used to offer to the imperialist-Zionist allies. So, we wonder, what is the new change in Iran and does the new Iranian rulers' behavior serve the Iranian peoples' interests?

The Tehran rulers must realize that there is no one in Iraq charmed by those turbaned drums. Our Iraqi people are engaged in building themselves and their nation. Every Iraqi citizen is acting with the same mentality as the highest official in the country on the path of carrying out the revolutionary development march. The Iraqi citizen is not prepared to waste this opportunity for the sake of Khomeyni or his mercenaries. The Iraqi citizen realizes that if he loses this opportunity, he will lose it forever. The Iraqi people, backed by the entire Arab nation, possess enough pan-Arab and national characteristics and strength to place the Iranian rulers between the hammer and anvil unless they reconsider their stands and stop their rashness.

BRIEFS

LOAN FOR YAR AIRPORT--Baghdad, 5 March--The Iraqi Fund for Foreign Development and the YAR today signed a joint protocol to start implementing the new Al-Hudaydah airport project with an Iraqi loan. Iraq has granted the YAR a loan of $300 million for development projects, including the new Al-Hudaydah airport. The protocol was signed on the Iraqi side by Dr 'Abd al-Amir 'Ali, chairman of the board of directors of the fund, and on the Yemeni side by Muhammad Hasan Sayrafi, chairman of the Aviation and Meteorological Department. [Text] [Baghdad INA in Arabic 1300 GMT 5 Mar 80 JN]

KING HUSAYN WANTS MIDEAST PROBLEM EXAMINED AT UN, NOT GENEVA

LD051151 Paris LE MONDE in French 4 Mar 80 p 4 LD

["J.G." report: "King Husayn Rules Out Any Participation by Jordan in Israeli-Egyptian Negotiations"]

[Excerpt] Replying on 25 February to questions put to him by five French journalists, including a LE MONDE special correspondent, King Husayn of Jordan ruled out any possibility of his country participating in the current U.S.-Egyptian-Israeli negotiations. The Camp David accords, the Jordanian monarch emphasized, are unacceptable because they provide neither for "a global settlement based on a withdrawal of Israeli troops from occupied territories nor for recognition of the Palestinian people's rights in their territory."

"We firmly believe," he added, "that the Palestinians should participate in any process leading to a solution to the Palestinian problem and we feel sure that, when exercising their legitimate right to self-determination under conditions of complete freedom, an overwhelming majority of the Palestinian people will respond in a way which satisfies all concerned."

King Husayn expressed the view that no "return to Geneva" is called for. "I believe, however," he stated, "that we should go back to the United Nations, maybe to the Security Council." He explained, however, that all interested parties, "especially our friends in Europe," and not only the United States and the USSR, should be able to state their views. Finally, the Hashemite monarch condemned the idea of the setting up of Western military bases in the Gulf region, asserting that this would lead to the creation of military bases by the opposing camp and "as a result create an extremely dangerous situation."

Anticipates UN Initiative

LD051311 Paris LE FIGARO in French 3 Mar 80 p 4 LD

[Unattributed report on King Husayn of Jordan Radio Europe 1 interview: "I Am Not Afraid of Iranian Contagion"]

[Text] "A risk of war in the Near East will remain until a just solution to the Palestinian problem is found." This axiom, which defines the Arab world's policy, was recalled by King Husayn of Jordan during a Radio Europe 1 "Press Club" interview.

The king of Jordan repeatedly insisted on three indispensable conditions for insuring a just and lasting peace in the region--evacuation of occupied Arab territories and Jerusalem and recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

He recalled that Europe, which is especially interested in stability in the region, and also the United States and the rest of the world should strive to preserve this stability by seeking a solution to the Palestinian problem.

King Husayn expressed his satisfaction with President Giscard d'Estaing's forthcoming visit to Jordan which, he stated, "will give us a unique opportunity for considering this problem and exchanging our views."

The Hashemite monarch believes that Security Council Resolution 242 has been overtaken by events and should be replaced with another approach to the problem, within a UN framework, taking into account the Palestinian people's legitimate rights in their territory. King Husayn stated that a new initiative in this direction could be taken in the near future.

After explaining that if Israel recognized the Palestinian people's rights, the Palestinians would in turn recognize the rights of the Hebrew state, the king stated that all countries throughout the world should jointly strive to insure peace in the region.

King Husayn refused to voice any opinion on whether the invasion of Afghanistan is an expression of Soviet expansionism. However, he expressed surprise at the fact that many voices in the Islamic world have been raided in support of Afghanistan whereas the same voices have remained silent with respect to the problem of Jerusalem. He nonetheless emphasized that the Afghan problem has caused anxiety and that it must be resolved rapidly.

The king stated that he feels sure that the Iranian Islamic Revolution will have no repercussions in Jordan. "Some problems do exist in this region but we must pray that it does not experience too many upheavels and that these problems are resolved through evolution, not revolution."

Finally, referring to the shah, he stated: "The shah started to implement very great projects in his country. His only mistake was that he failed to take into account his people's spiritual needs. However, none of us has any right to pass judgment on him. Only future generations will be able to pass judgment on his work."

AMMAN RADIO CRITICIZES CARTER STATEMENT ON UN VOTE

JN051746 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Mar 80 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The Israeli Cabinet's decision rejecting the UN Security Council resolution condemning settlement and calling for the dismantlement of existing settlements established in the occupied Arab territories has exposed the nature of the Zionist movement, which proceeds from purely racist premises. This rejection came despite the fact that Israel was originally established by a UN Security Council decision.

Observers may find justifications for Israel's rejection, since Israel does not care for peace as much as for seeking to expand the area of Palestinian and other Arab land it is occupying, even if this exposes the security, stabiluty and safety of the region and the world to the worst dangers.

However, the U.S. administration's retraction of its support for the UN Security Council resolution is difficult to justify. We know and the entire world knows that the United States will never accept the endangering of Israel's security. The question is: Does the establishment of Jewish settlements on occupied Arab land, the denial of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and Israel's expanionist and aggressive policy serve Israel's security and the issue of peace, in the opinion of the United States? How can aggression, expansionism and denial of the rights of peoples be the road to peace, in the opinion of the United States and Israel?

The U.S. President has often proclaimed his denunciation of the policy of Jewish settlement in the occupied Arab land, considering this policy an obstacle to peace and a violation of the 1949 Geneva agreements. How can President Carter reconcile these stands and his retraction of support for the UN Security Council resolution which objects to the establishment of Jewish settlements? Did the U.S. Department of State make a mistake in instructing its UN representative, or does the basic mistake in U.S. policy lie in its inability to adopt a balanced stand on the Middle East crisis, or are there election considerations which drove President Carter to go back on his country's public stand so as to placate Jewish voters at the expense of international legality and the justice of the Palestinian issue?

The UN Security Council resolution is binding on all. The U.S. retraction is a highly serious precedent unheard of in the history of international diplomacy. Such a retraction deprives the UN Security Council of its power and respect as long as a big power like the United States approves a resolution which satisfied those against whom aggression has been committed and then retracts this approval the next day in order to placate the aggressors.

The United States might go back on its approval of resolutions which are more important dealing with the destinies of nations and states as a result of election pressures or as a defensive ruse to cover up the big failure of the Camp David accords. The U.S. retraction of its support for the UN Security Council resolution demonstrates to the Arabs and the entire world Israel's ability to twist the arm of the United States and prevent it from supporting right, justice and peace, as if it is a weak state revolving in the orbit of the Zionist policy.

We are surprised at the U.S. retraction which was announced by President Carter in his statement the day before yesterday because this retraction means that the United States supports the policy of Jewish settlement in the occupied territories, particularly in the densely populated areas. This policy violates the Geneva agreements, the UN Charter and resolutions and all international laws and norms.

We are also surprised at the U.S. President's remarks in his statement on the future of Arab Jerusalem, which is the sensitive nerve in the issue of peace--a peace which can never be visualized without the restoration of Arab sovereignty over occupied Arab Jerusalem.

If President Carter believes that he served the issue of peace in his statement which contradicts his country's stand on the UN Security Council resolution, how can peace be established within a framework of an aggressive policy which disregards the core of the issue, is based on expansionism and settlement and denies the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, particularly their undisputed right to self-determination on the soil of their Palestinian homeland?

A policy which is influenced by election pressures and is formulated as a reaction to the failure of the Camp David accords cannot be the policy of a superpower whose President has filled the ears of the world with remarks on morals and human rights.

PRESIDENT SARKIS ADDRESSES NATION ON BASIC PRINCIPLES

NC052040 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 5 Mar 80 NC

[5 March address to the nation by Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis--recorded]

[Text] O Lebanese, we are on the threshold of the sixth year of the tribulation that has befallen us. The pain that we all feel in our hearts and our yearning for a life of fraternity, which until 5 years ago was an example emulated by others, are no longer an inner feeling in each of us but has gone beyond this to take the form of numerous public declarations and work programs that aim at cementing that which has been cracked, at rebuilding that which has been damaged and at securing a shield for unity, sovereignty and independence.

The contacts and consultations that I and his excellency the prime minister have held recently have affirmed that the Lebanese, though they may disagree on methods and details, agree on the basic principles on which Lebanon's entity is founded and on the bases on which Lebanon must be rebuilt.

I have called for implementing these principles several times since I took the constitutional oath. I repeat them now, out of my belief that they reflect your feelings as well as the truth about this tormented homeland. We adhere to the unity of Lebanon's territory, people and institutions. We affirm its independence and sovereignty. We also affirm that a strong state is a shield protecting these basic principles. Therefore, nothing should be allowed that would conflict with the state's entity.

We categorically reject the establishment of ministates in Lebanon at Lebanon's expense. We also reject the present anarchy and lawlessness. All entities that have grown at the homeland's expense must be eliminated and replaced by the state and its legal forces alone. There must be no other armed group, be it Lebanese or non-Lebanese. This requires the strengthening of the state's authority, the abolishment of anything that contradicts with legality or law and order, and the state's imposition of its authority over all Lebanese territory and those living in it.

We believe we must have a single state with full-fledged responsibilities and integrated departments, a state that can impose respect for the law and that can defend citizens' rights, secure freedom and security for all Lebanese in all areas and uphold Lebanon's sovereignty and independence.

We adhere to a free democratic parliamentary system and to further strengthening and developing it so that it will continue to respond to the people's aspirations for stability, progress and justice, as well as to the requirements of the age. We also adhere to the maintenance of Lebanon's character based on respect for basic liberties within the framework of law and order and cultural openness to the world.

Lebanon must remain the country of liberties. These are our traditions and this is the world's view of us. The concept of freedom cannot be separated from the very concept of Lebanon itself. We believe in freedom as one of the elements forming our character and life and as an idea that cannot be separated from our self-pride, for which we are known and without which we cannot live. It is closely connected with our cultural and ideological progress and with what we have achieved in various spheres and under every sky.

We adhere to a free economic system while affirming the state's role in supervision and control and the need to adopt planning for Lebanon's construction, for developing its production capabilities and for insuring a sound economic and social life for it within an integrated development plan.

We stress the need to provide the prerequisites for social stability. We must tackle the social problems resulting from events and adhere to the principles of the realization of comprehensive social justice and of equality and equal opportunities. We must also act to create an atmosphere necessary for tackling the question of sectarianism in the near and distant future.

We are keen on seeing that justice and equality become a fact that leads the citizen to his right for social services--medical and educational--and on seeing that the officials in the public and private sectors give the attention due to providing jobs that are appropriate to the scientific and practical qualifications and to establishing justice, which is the basis for every regime and government.

Lebanon is an Arab country and an active member of the Arab family. In accordance with the Arab League's Charter, Lebanon, which is one of the founders of the league, is committed to strengthening the league's role in safeguarding Arab solidarity. We are proud of our past and present contributions to the Arab intellectual and political renaissance and of our past and present services in the Arab arena.

We consider the question of Palestine to be our own. We have always supported and continue to support the Palestinian question and have helped the Palestinian people in attaining their national aims in order to establish their own state on their own land. This question has taken much of our efforts on the international level. Internally, we have suffered much over this issue out of our faith in the duty of fraternity and in the fact that it is a just cause.

Out of our desire to uphold what is right, we have rejected and continue to reject the Camp David agreement because it does not take into consideration the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people to establish their own state on their national soil, because it does not constitute a suitable framework for the establishment of a just and durable peace in the area and because it would lead to the final expulsion of the Palestinians from their homeland and homes and to their settling wherever they are residing now as guests.

We emphasize solidarity with the Arab brothers in every fateful situation and reject all forms of cooperation with the Israeli enemy.

Lebanon has enlisted and continues to enlist itself in the service of every Arab issue. It has sincerely and enthusiastically defended such issues. It has expressed solidarity with the Arab brothers in every fateful situation and was rejecting everything that conflicts with their sublime interests. This is why we advocate the need to mobilize Arab resources in the Arab-Israeli conflict and insure the unity of ranks in the struggle for serving the Arab questions.

Lebanon emphasizes that it is necessary to respect all the resolutions of the Arab summit conferences and that it adheres to its stands on these resolutions. Furthermore, Lebanon emphasizes that the relations among fraternal Arab states must be established on the bases of fraternity, cooperation and mutual respect for the independence, sovereignty, and laws of each state as well as nonintervention in the domestic affairs of other states.

Lebanon adheres to its position in the world and to its international role; it also adheres to UN principles and to its membership in this organization. Lebanon is keen on respecting the UN resolutions and it is particularly keen on fully and correctly implementing the UN Security Council's resolutions on southern Lebanon with all possible means in order to end the Israeli occupation of the border strip so that the state may regain its sovereignty over all the territory in the south up to the internationally recognized borders.

The relations between Lebanon and fraternal Syria are special relations based on mutual respect for sovereignty and independence. Good neighborliness, common history and struggle, ties of kinship and mutual interests have a great effect on imposing close cooperation and full coordination between both countries. Furthermore, they indicate the organization of joint action in both countries' mutual interest.

Concerning relations with the PLO, it is necessary to soundly implement the agreements governing these relations. It goes without saying that this should not conflict with Lebanon's sovereignty and safety and with the UN Security Council's resolutions on the south.

O Lebanese, those who want to build must defend what they build. The people who are destined to struggle must possess the right means to confront their destiny. Therefore, I reaffirm that there can be no state without an army and that our defense policy aims at serving the principles I mentioned and consequently at enabling the army to realize its national aims.

I consider all these facts--the principles--as cohesive, integrated and indivisible because they constitute the foundation on which to build Lebanon's present and future. We must not approach these facts as if we want an argument only for the sake of argument. Such behavior has been one of the reasons for the decline of societies and the collapse of states.

Let us begin by placing these principles in the position they deserve. I call on all Lebanese--residents and expatriates--to rally around these principles in order to create an atmosphere conducive to a sound and constructive dialog and consequently to discuss details of practical measures we would implement so that we can continue the march toward serving Lebanon and promoting its welfare. Long live Lebanon!

AL-HUSS STRESSES NEED FOR DETENTE, SECURITY PLAN

NC052151 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 5 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Following the Cabinet session tonight during which the principles of national detente were approved, Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss made a statement stressing the importance of translating these principles into fact, reality and deed. Prime Minister al-Huss said:

We must now adopt the necessary steps to implement the principles of detente. The prime minister added: To guarantee the implementation of these principles it is necessary to prepare, in coordination with the Lebanese Army, Arab Deterrent Forces and the internal security forces, a security plan that would cover all of Lebanon. It is also necessary to continue the steps leading to the rebuilding of the army in a manner that will enable its effective mobilization and to continue contacts with fraternal Syria on all issues of mutual interest and on everything that would strengthen bilateral relations.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES PLO'S 'ARAFAT, OTHER PALESTINIANS

JN051656 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 5 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Damascus--President Hafiz al-Asad received at 1615 today PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, Palestine National Council Chairman Khalid al-Fahum and PLO Executive Committee members 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, 'Isam al-Qadi and Talal Naji. The meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM ROMANIAN PRESIDENT

JN051348 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 5 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Damascus--At 1040 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Romanian Minister of State Vasile Pungan, who conveyed a message to the president from Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu. The message included the Romanian president's regards and his viewpoints on the main issues concerning the two states, particularly the Middle East situation.

The Romanian president affirmed Romania's stand on the need to achieve a just and comprehensive Middle East settlement, based on recognition of the Palestinian people's right to determine their fate and on Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem.

The Romanian minister of state added that such a settlement has not been achieved by either the Camp David accords or by the Israeli-Egyptian treaty.

President al-Asad expressed his appreciation of the Romanian stand, adding that the Egyptian regime's agreement with Israel has increased tension and created a grave situation in the region. The need to continue working to expand the scope of cooperation between Syria and Romania and to exert efforts to bolster the role of the Third World states in solving international issues was also affirmed.

At the end of the meeting, the president requested that the Romanian minister convey his regards and best wishes to President Ceausescu and to the friendly Romanian people.

PRESIDENT AL-ASAD CHAIRS NATIONAL FRONT MEETING

JN051942 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 5 Mar 80 JN

[Text] The Central Command of the National Progressive Front met at 2030 today under His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad. The situation in the Arab area and developments related to the Palestinian issue were reviewed. The discussion at the meeting also dealt with the actions being taken to strengthen the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front.

OFFICIAL ACCUSES ISRAEL OF PREPARING MILITARY ACTION

NC051520 Cairo DPA in Arabic 1425 GMT 5 Mar 80 NC

[Excerpts] Damascus, 5 March--Syrian Deputy Foreign Minister Nasir Qaddur today accused Israel of preparing for military action against Syria.

In an interview with DPA, Qaddur said that from our 30 years of experience with Israel, during which it carried out four wars and a number of clashes, we know that when the Israeli leaders speak about alleged threats by Syria, they are actually preparing for an aggression against us. Despite this, Qaddur added, Syria does not intend to launch any military action. Similar assurances have been reiterated by the Israeli politicians.

To a question on Syrian-Soviet relations in the light of Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko's recent visit to Damascus, Qaddur said: "Nothing additional has been decided." He added: Our relations with Moscow are characterized by friendship and flexibility and the Soviet Union supports our cause.

Qaddur denied that Gromyko had influenced Syria not to attend the Islamic foreign ministers conference in Islamabad--the conference which was convened to denounce the Soviet interference in Afghanistan. He claimed that we have taken our decision not to attend the conference a long time before Gromyko arrived here. Qaddur explained Syria's stand on the question of Afghanistan by saying: We are confronting a real danger: The Israeli aggression against our nation and creed. He added: This is the existing danger with which we should be concerned. He continued: We shall not preoccupy ourselves with imaginary dangers from Afghanistan, Iran or any other place.

Referring to **Lebanon**, Qaddur said that the Syrian forces will definitely be assembled outside Beirut, but he refused to give a final date for this.

Qaddur said that he is satisfied with the progress in bilateral relations with the FRG and that he is looking forward to further progress in this regard. However, he said, we would like to see the FRG showing a better understanding toward our national issue.

VOL REPORTS ON CLASHES, TENSION IN ALEPPO

NC051345 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 5 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Entering and leaving the city of Aleppo has been prevented and armed security checkpoints have been deployed. In the meantime internal roads and streets have been blocked off by stones and buses. Special forces units, moved in by helicopters, are supervising the security situation in Aleppo and suburbs. It has been reported that many people have been killed in the city.

Clashes were renewed at 0700 yesterday when an armed group set two buses on fire on the Al-Barun Street. The clashes spread to other quarters of the city. Heavy gunfire was exchanged and gas stations and certain official establishments were set on fire. The university of Aleppo and schools in the city have been closed and military aircraft are overflying the city.

Our radio correspondent says that another clash took place in Aleppo last Saturday in the As-Salihiyah quarter between Muslim Brotherhood groups and intelligence elements, in which hand grenades, machineguns and RPG's were used. A number of people, mostly pedestrians, were killed or injured. The clashes spread from As-Salihiyah to the Al-Jaliliyah suburb. Three intelligence men arrested a 12-year-old boy, who was distributing Muslim Brotherhood pamphlets inciting people to rebel. The boy and three security men were killed.

Tension continued last Sunday in the city and sporadic clashes took place of which the most serious was a clash in the Al-Barun street near Al-Manshiyah in which well over 10 persons were killed. Our radio correspondent notes that the pamphlets distributed by the Muslim Brotherhood in Aleppo and surrounding areas call on people to insure they have enough food supplies in their homes.

ALGERIA

AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH HUNGARY

ID060939 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 29 Feb-1 Mar 80 p 3 ID

[APS report: "Promoting Bilateral Relations in Agriculture"]

[Excerpt] Algiers--A protocol on the development of agricultural cooperation between Algeria and Hungary was signed at the Ministry of Agriculture and the Agrarian Revolution Thursday morning by Soos Gabor, secretary of state at the Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industries, and Bouzid Hammiche, general secretary or the Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Revolution.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI ADDRESSES AFRICAN WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

ID060958 Tripoli JANA in English 0824 GMT 6 Mar 80 ID

[Text] Tripoli, March 6, JAMAHRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Grand al-Fatah Revolution attended yesterday's evening session of the African Women's Conference, currently being held in Tripoli, and delivered a message in which he described the conference as an important step in Africa on the road for progress and unity. He said that the conference is taking place at a time that the African liberation movement is recording a semi-final victory against imperialism.

He added luckily enough for the freedom movement that ZANU-PF has won the recent election in Zimbabwe because it is a nationalist revolutionary, progressive force. The leader greeted the Zimbabwean people for this victory affirming that the Jamahriyah will continue its support to them. He greeted the Zimbabwean martyrs who paved the way for freedom of Africa.

He announced that the victory of the Zimbabweans proved that Africa will win all the battles in the parts colonized by the racists. He said the victory of the Zimbabwean revolution indicated the defeat of racism in South Africa and Palestine. He pointed out that the destiny is common between Arabs and Africans in confrontation of racism because the links are very strong between the racist regimes in Palestine and South Africa and they have a common alliance between them.

He affirmed that the African peoples should not waste any efforts in confronting racist Zionism, and that the victory of the people of Zimbabwe proves that we are able to defeat the racist regimes in South Africa and in occupied Palestine. He elaborated that colonialism created puppet regimes in the independent countries to guarantee sucking the blood or the Africans and these puppet regimes are playing the same role of the colonialist. For example the Moroccan regime took the role of the Spanish colonialism against the people of the Sahara. He added that it is a crime committed by the Moroccan regime to fight the neighbouring people of the Sahara and this can not be forgiven, and the Africans should stand with all their strength in support for the Popular Front for the Liberation of the Sagia al-Hamra and Rio de Oro--POLISARIO. He also pointed out the alliance of the defeated Egyptian president with the racists against freedom in Africa by putting the Egyptian capabilities to serve the Zionist enemy in Palestine including the waters of the Nile.

He said that this path and alliance links the defeated Egyptian Government with the racist government of South Africa because the alliance with the Israelis is an alliance with the racists of South Africa.

He pointed out that the racist regime recorded a great victory in East Africa but is facing defeats in the south of the continent. He said: To defend Africa from the racist alliance, the Egyptian Government should be tightly beseiged and boycotted in all fields. Strong, comprehensive African sanctions should be imposed on it, in order that it sets an example to any agent of racism in Africa. He called upon the participants to fight and break off any relations of their countries with the Egyptian Government and to express this in the conference resolutions.

He pointed out that there are colonialist bases renewed in some African countries and affirmed the necessity of fighting and confronting them. He said that any country asks [as received] foreign forces to intervene should be considered a protectorate. It should abandon the record of her national struggle against colonialism and explained that the great imperialist powers try to divide the world. Africa has become a farm for Europe and a mine and region of monopoly. The imperialists describe the Africans as the slaves of Europe. He said: Western Europe is colonialist and racist. It built its wealth by robbing our resources. He pointed out that Christianity was introduced in Africa through colonialism. It is a tool of colonialism in Africa. Language was also a tool for cultural colonialism. Through church, the Africans were colonialized spiritually; through companies, Africa was colonialized economically; and by military forces, the continent was colonialized militarily. In conclusion, the leader called upon the African peoples to revolt to put an end to all forms of colonialism in Africa, because without the eradication of these forms, the freedom of Africa will not be complete.

MAURITANIA

HAYDALA RECEIVES POLISARIO DELEGATION 5 MAR

LD052150 Noukchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 5 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, president of the Military Committee for National Salvation, head of state and government, received this afternoon the POLISARIO delegation led by S'adi Mahmud, and a number of Mauritanian officials, including the minister in charge of the permament secretariat of the Military Committee for National Salvation.

SUDAN

ZAMBIAN FINANCE MINISTER ARRIVES 5 MAR

JN051815 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1745 GMT 5 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 5 March--Joshua Lumina, Zambian finance and technocal cooperation minister, arrived here today. He is carrying a message from President Kaunda to President Ja'far Numayri.

TUNISIA

DOCTOR REPORTS NOUIRA'S HEALTH IMPROVING

LD051946 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 5 Mar 80 LD

[Text] The health of Hedi Nouria is steadily improving. The neurosurgery branch at La Petite Salpetriere Hospital in Paris issued the following statement this morning:

The condition of Hedi Nouria's health is steadily improving on the 9th day since his indisposition in Tunis. He has been able to get up and is taking his meals normally. Two new tests showed that the slight hemorrhage in the brain is progressing satisfactorily.

[Signed] [name indistinct]

BOURGUIBA MEETS DPRK DELEGATION 4 MAR

LD041608 Tunis TAP in English 1400 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Carthage, March 4, TAP--The Tunisian head of state received Tuesday a delegation of the Korean Labour Party headed by Mr Kim Hwan, member of the Political Committee and secretary of the Korean Labour Party's Central Committee, who has been on a visit to Tunisia for several days. During the interview, the delegation expressed the great regard of the North Korean people for Tunisia's achievements, pointing out the good relations existing between the two peoples. The delegation was also received during its stay in Tunis by the speaker of the National Assembly and the director of the Destur Socialist Party.

Delegation Leaves

LD042119 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Text] The DPRK Workers Party delegation left Tunis today. The leader of the delegation, Kim Hwan, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the party, stated that the visit to Tunisia at the invitation of the Destur Socialist Party was successful, and [word indistinct] his talks this morning with President Bourguiba. He expressed admiration for the progress Tunisia has achieved in all fields, adding that he sensed that progress during his visits to several parts of the country. He thanked all the officials he met and also members of the Destur Party for the support and understanding they had toward [word indistinct] unification of both parts of Korea. He hoped for further consolidation of friendship and cooperation between the two peoples.

BOURGUIBA'S SON REPORTS ON FOREIGN TOUR

LD042048 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Summary] At 1900 today, President Bourguiba conferred at the Republican Palace in Carthage with Bourguiba Junior, the president's private adviser who this evening returned to Tunis from his mission to France, the United States, Britain and Austria. Bourguiba Junior states that he began his tour by visiting Paris, where he conveyed to the French president a message from President Bourguiba, visited Prime Minister Nouira and told him details of the attack on Qafsah. The French president asked after the great struggler and expressed concern over Nouira's health.

In Washington, Bourguiba Junior pointed out, he had talks with many U.S. officials including Vance and President Carter. He observed that the U.S. President asked after the health of President Bourguiba and expressed concern over the indisposition of Prime Minister Nouira and also his interest in problems in Tunisia, with whom the United States has strong relations based on mutual respect. He expressed deep understanding of the Qafsah events in the light of the explanation he had presented to him about the [word indistinct] of the Qafsah events and also in the light of the written message from President Bourguiba. Bourguiba Junior returned then to Paris where he visited Nouira. He then said he visited London and met British Prime Minister Mrs Thatcher who expressed indignation at the attack and concern over the health of the prime minister. Today, he said, he visited Vienna and met Kreisky, who shared with the president the lessons learned from the dilemma which Tunisia had experienced. He thanked the leaders of the countries he had visited.

L'ACTION: LIBYA MOUNTS SEARCH FOR OIL WELL SABOTEURS

LD051009 Tunis L'ACTION in French 27 Feb 80 pp 1, 4 LD

[Unattributed Tripoli dispatch: "General Uneasiness and Acts of Sabotage"]

[Excerpt] The Libyan authorities are desperately trying to find the perpetrators of an act of sabotage against the No 3 oil well at Abou Tafel [as published], which was set on fire on 5 February. The fire was extinguished only early Wednesday afternoon by using explosives. The entire area has been polluted by toxic gas within a radius of 2 km. The Libyan authorities are afraid of new acts of sabotage against the oil wells. They have considerably strengthened security forces in the oil extraction areas.

For the time being they have asked to supply them with special equipment and products with a view to containing the gas leaks and huge oil leak which pollute the region and could lead to more outbreaks of fire.

KUNA: MINISTER SAYS NO ATTACK EXPECTED FROM LIBYA

LD041640 Kuwait KUNA in English 1106 GMT 4 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait, March 4, (KUNA)--The Tunisian minister of information and culture said Tuesday his country's conflict with Libya will not [words indistinct] of African unity or the United Nations unless the Arab foreign ministers fail to reach solution.

Addressing a Kuwaiti press delegation now visiting Tunis, he said Tunisia will contract the purchase of sophisticated weaponry. We will seek to diversify our weapon sources, Fouad Mbaza told the delegation. We buy weapons from friendly countries he [word indistinct] of self-defense, he said in statements published here. The minister denied the presence of any French forces in Tunisia, and said we do not believe in calling such forces.

He expressed belief that the Arab nation was capable to tackle conflicts between sister nations. Mbaza said we do not expect an attack from Libya or any other country. We are a Muslim nation with a stretched hand of fraternity.

The minister warned if the Arab League fails to reach a settlement over the conflict with Libya, Tunisia will raise the matter to the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and we may go even further to the Security Council, he said.

We will not tolerate any intervention that may touch on Tunisian sovereignty, even from an Arab neighbour, the minister said.

ANTI-TUNISIAN CLANDESTINE RADIO HEARD 21 FEB

[Broadcast Note FCS/WA] An anti-Tunisian clandestine radio announced as "This Is Qafsah, Voice of the Revolutionary Movement for the Liberation of Tunisia" was intercepted for the first time on 21 February. The radio, operating on 730 kHz mediumwave in Arabic, is known to broadcast at least four times daily: from 0500 to at least 0715 GMT, from 1325 (and possibly earlier) to at least 1500 GMT, from 1700 to 1900 GMT and from 2030 to 2245 GMT. Sign-on and sign-off times for monitored broadcasts have varied, however, and a complete schedule has not yet been determined.

Program content of monitored broadcasts has included news reports, talks and commentaries hostile to the presant Tunisian regime and patriotic songs. Monitor observations indicate that some of the patriotic songs played by the radio are Egyptian songs popular during the time of An-Nasir and heard on Tripoli Radio since An-Nasir's death.

WESTERN SAHARA

POLISARIO ASKS MAURITANIA TO HAND OVER TERRITORIES

LD061054 Algiers APS in Arabic 0800 GMT 6 Mar 80 LD

[Text] SDAR, (the liberated territories), 6 Mar, APS--The POLISARIO Front has announced that Mauritania had promised to hand over the territories it occupies to the POLISARIO Front on 5 March 1980 in accordance with the secret articles of the peace agreement which the Mauritanians and the Saharans signed in Algiers (?last) August.

In a statement to APS, Bachir Mustapha Sayed, the assistant secretary general of the POLISARIO Front, addressed a pressing call to the Mauritanian leaders urging them to give a positive response by fully respecting all the overt and covert articles of the peace agreement signed in Algeria.

The POLISARIO Front stressed that it has respected the agreement signed between the two parties. Bachir Mustapha Sayed explained that no military operations have been carried out in the region occupied by Mauritania and that the respect of this article by the POLISARIO Front has enabled Morocco to intensify its venomous propaganda and fabrications.

POLISARIO FORCES REPORTEDLY 'LIBERATE' SMARA

LD051350 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 5 Mar 80 LD

[Text] POLISARIO sources have reported that the revolutionaries liberated Smara town, in the northern part of the Sahara, during the battles which recently raged between them and the invading Moroccan forces. The sources have explained that the battles between the revolutionaries and the Moroccan forces are still going on in the Saharan el Bouirat region.

CRITICAL REACTION TO U.S. VOTE AT UN CONTINUES

Begin, Peres Decry Action

TA060847 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 6 Mar 80 TA

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin and opposition leader Shim'on Peres firmly reject the Security Council resolution and the U.S. attitude in that discussion. The prime minister told the Knesset that we accept with respect President Carter's clarification on the communications foul-up that occurred with his UN representative, but we have to ask in all candor whether the mistake in the one article hostile to Israel is the only expression of hostility toward Israel included in the Security Council resolution. The resolution has more articles that mention Jerusalem and contradict the Camp David accords, which the United States also backed and to which it took no exception. The prime minister termed those articles terrible wrongs. He described as fantastic and barbaric the demands in the UN resolution pertaining to Jerusalem, and called on members of the Security Council to take notice that Jerusalem will eternally remain Israel's integral capital.

On the settlements, the prime minister said that this is a Jewish right that is absolutely incontestable and a security requirement that we shall maintain. Without explicitly mentioning France and its president, the prime minister leveled strong criticism at their attempt to interfere in the Middle East. He said that an attempt had also been made in Europe during the thirties to placate an extortionist and eventually a small country was eliminated, after the Europeans had been talking of self-determination.

Shim'on Peres said that no Israeli element will agree to the demands of the Security Council. We shall not consent to sacrifice what is vital to our security. We shall not sacrifice Jerusalem and will not agree to dictates and threats meant to dispossess us. The defense minister, Shim'on Peres said, accused the Cabinet that it managed to make itself a pain in the neck to the world at large, even though he is unwilling to agree to a U.S.-European campaign against Israel. Mr Peres leveled strong criticism against the French president and said he avoided visiting Israel but did not refrain from criticizing it. He also tells the Arabs to adopt extremist positions, regardless of whether their cause is just.

On Carter's explanations about a communications foul-up, Peres said that even the U.S. representative at the United Nations failed to support that version. The United States denied Israel technological advantages while it was supplying arms to the Arabs, and now it has asked them to demand the removal of settlements. At the same time, Peres stressed, one should not disregard the erosion our government caused in our status. What is being said in the Cabinet meetings is causing us the greatest harm. The prime minister, Peres said, is leading Israel toward a situation from which there is no way out, and he is supplying all of Israel's enemies with ammunition and is making things more difficult for our friends. The Knesset is now debating the prime minister's statement.

Resolution Rejecting Vote Analyzed

TA061310 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 6 Mar 80 TA

[Text] The Knesset noted Menahem Begin's statement rejecting the Security Council resolution in regard to the settlements. The Knesset resolution was supported by 50 coalition members as well as Moshe Dayan and Ge'ula Kohen; the 37 representatives of the opposition voted against, and 2 abstained.

A motion submitted by the Alinement, Shay, the independent liberals, the Citizens Rights Movement and Elgrabli--linking the rejection of the Security Council resolution and the rejection of settlement in the heart of Arab populated concentrations in Hebron--was also defeated. This opposition motion also included a call to strengthen the status of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

Our correspondent Tzvi Yisre'eli notes that the Alinement proposed that the part rejecting the Security Council resolution would be put to a separate vote so as to concentrate a vast Knesset majority around it, but the coalition objected to this.

HA'ARETZ Assessment

TA051543 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 5 Mar 80 p 9 TA

[Yo'el Marcus commentary: "An Eye For An Eye"]

[Excerpts] The attitude of the U.S. administration toward Israel is often reminiscent of an English [as published] waltz, after two steps forward comes a step backwards--until the next round.

The story about the vote in the Security Council on the dismantling of Jewish settlements was in line with all the rules known to us from the history of our relations with that administration. This is not to say that this time too, like in earlier instances, there was not an element of truth in the excuses and explanations of the administration. If Israel's representatives felt that administration officials thought they had erred in voting for the article in the resolution calling for the dismantling of the settlements, they have to be believed. The fear that the neutralistic image will be harmed and, particularly, that Carter's endeavors to be reelected will come to harm, is quite a reasonable fear.

The administration used "overkill" in the past and was forced to withdraw one step backward. However, the formula that Ambassador McHenry indeed misled the President or failed to comply with his instructions, that version demands an examination in depth. McHenry is not a meteoric phenomenon like Andrew Young, but a career diplomat, and it is difficult to imagine that he would act contrary to his superiors' instructions. If there is therefore a grain of truth in the "regret" or decision of the administration, then it is only because it failed to evaluate correctly in advance the contingent projections of that operational article in the resolution package on the dismantling of the settlements.

There is no regret, withdrawal of softening in the elementary fact that President Carter this time decided in principle and deliberately to deviate from the customary U.S. policy of voting in the Security Council. To date the United States refrained, as part of its commitment to Israel, from giving support to resolutions on issues still "open to negotiations." Now, following the Israeli Cabinet's decision on Hebron, the President decided on a U.S. countermeasure: The United States joined the international majority against the settlements. Ambassador 'Evron's complaint that the administration acted behind his and Israel's back, and that until a few hours before the Security Council's vote administration officials gave him no hint that they intended to support the resolution testifies to the caution of the administration, which kept the American move secret from Israel so that the latter not raise a hue and cry, pressing Carter to prevent the vote or abstain from it.

Why was this a surprise? Were not negotiations between the U.S. ambassador and ambassadors of the 14 nations represented in the Security Council going on for a week? The proposed resolution underwent several metamorphoses--an article is being withdrawn, another article added; we know that the White House was sorely tried by the Hebron issue; we know about the strong views of public figures and politicians against Israel's settlement policy to the point of adopting economic sanctions against Israel; we know there is hardly an issue where the administration has a firmer ground to act against Israel than the issue of settlements--and we were nevertheless caught "with our pants down," and taken by complete surprise.

Even if Israel had known of the U.S. intention prior to the vote, it could hardly prevent the U.S. vote, but it could at least prevent the U.S. support for the dismantling of the settlements. But, as we said before, the two steps forward have already been made and now, when the administration is making the step backward, Israel is left with a single "net" step, which constitutes one more link in the chain surrounding it. Anyone who is not blind knows today that Israel's information campaign on the establishment of settlements has been a complete failure. No American today, including Jewish functionaries, will accept the thesis that Israel can establish facts by setting up settlements in the territories, when it pledged in the Camp David accords that the final status of the West Bank would be ultimately determined after 5 years.

Thus Israel accepted in principle the possibility that the West Bank might not be in its possession. One can say, without fear of exaggeration, that in the United States there is not only a consensus against Israel on this issue, but also anger and impatience with the talk and actions rife in Israel on that issue, and particularly a feeling that the United States can do much more than it does to restrain Israel.

There are people--Senator Richard Byrd among them--who today openly demand that aid to Israel be cut. Such sanctions may still be a long way off because the lesson the administration learned this week, as in similar instances in the past, is that there are natural limits to overly extreme steps against Israel, and that a move that has an element of "overkill" may eventually act as a boomerang against the administration itself. Even though it may confirm the adage that the almighty protects the simpleminded, the administration is well experienced in rapidly mending such mistakes without deviating from the line conceiving them, so that Israel cannot put its trust too much in that direction.

The conclusion Israel may draw is that a "rectified mistake" is rapidly forgotten, whereas the American policy that conceived the mistake is perpetuated. Without entering into exaggerations when assessing the U.S. vote (it is certainly not a "second Munich"), it definitely augurs in U.S. reactions and the beginning of "an eye for an eye" approach on the issue of Jewish settlements.

Carter Stunned by Negative Reaction

TA051129 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 5 Mar 80 p 1 TA

[Text] Political circles in Jerusalem do not think there were any "communications foul-ups" behind the U.S. pro-Palestinian vote at the Security Council, but that President Carter was surprised by the negative aspect of the vote, and that he did not take into account the impact of these projections on the presidential campaign.

The fact that Secretary of State Cyrus Vance assumed responsibility for the communications foul-up proves that Ambassador McHenry had indeed received clear instructions from the State Department.

Political circles in Jerusalem yesterday viewed with grave concern the statement by Ambassador McHenry, who said that because of that dispute one tends to forget that the settlements are illegal.

One of the religious ministers said yesterday the McHenry's statement also had a positive side to it, as we now know what the U.S. UN ambassador's thinking is.

Political circles in the Knesset believe, on the other hand, that Ambassador McHenry misled the president. But in order to prevent McHenry's resignation like that of his predecessor Andren Young, the President assumed responsibility for the mistake, describing it as a "communications foul-up."

UN SINAI OBSERVERS TO REMAIN IN EGYPTIAN TERRITORY

TA041201 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 4 Mar 80 p 1 TA

[By military correspondent Ya'aqov Erez]

[Text] Dozens of UN observers are currently occupying new positions being established in the Sinai in Egyptian territory. Four to six such positions will be set up.

The MA'ARIV correspondent has learned that the Egyptians have agreed to allow UNTSO observer units to remain in the Sinai. Since these units have no mission to fulfill at present--as the United Nations plays no part in the supervision agreement--the Egyptians have expressed their willingness to permit the UN observers to build new bases in the area that was returned to Egypt 2 months ago.

Israeli defense elements explained last night that the Egyptian readiness to permit the UN observers to continue to establish themselves in the Sinai stems from the hope that they would help the U.S. technicians in charge of supervision in areas A and B in the Sinai. Even though the supervision agreement with the United States has not yet been signed, an agreement--to which the United Nations has not objected--was made to allow UNTSO observers, 150 of them, to serve as auxilliary aid to the U.S. supervisors.

Israel had, at the time, objected to incorporating the UN observers into the process of supervising the Sinai.

TOURISM AGREEMENT DELAYED; AIRLINE SERVICE INAUGURATED

'Technical Problems'

TA050611 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 5 Mar 80 TA

[Text] Egypt has once again delayed talks on commercial cooperation with Israel, explaining this delay as resulting from technical reasons. But Israeli officials say that there is no justification for the postponment. The officials note that the bilateral tourism agreement has been put off because the Egyptians want to note in the headline that this is a memorandum rather than an agreement.

Passenger Flights Begin

TA050917 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 5 Mar 80 TA

[Text] The flight of the Egyptian airline from Cairo to Ben-Gurion Airport roused no commotion. Only 15 passengers came off the leased plane at Ben-Gurion Airport. After about 45 minutes, the plane took off for Cairo carrying 23 passengers.

Our correspondent Beni Rom reports that El Al has provided all the ground services to the aircraft leased by the Egyptian Nefertiti Company. Government tourist office hostesses welcomed the passengers with flowers.

VISA, TRAVEL DOCUMENTS ISSUE RAISED FOR GAZA RESIDENTS

TA051853 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 5 Mar 80 TA

[Text] Egypt is asking for a status in the Gaza Strip similar to that of Jordan in Judaea and Samaria. Our reporter in Cairo Shud Ya'ari says the request was raised at a meeting of the transportation committee. The Egyptians want to issue visas and travel documents to Gazans and also to other Arabs wishing to enter the territory via the Ne'ot Sinai checkpoint. Ehud Shilo, the director of Israel's Transport Ministry, suggested the matter should be raised at the full normalization committee. Ya'ari also reports that Egyptians will permit Israeli private cars into Egypt but they do not want to allow buses and trucks.

ROLE OF ANTINORMALIZATION GROUPS IN EGYPT EXAMINED

TA040736 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 4 Mar 80 TA

[Text] Various opposition elements in Egypt have begun contacts to coordinate their positions against the normalization with Israel. Many posters on behalf of Islamic groups entitled "Against Normalization With the Jews" have been distributed in Cairo. Yesterday and again today, opposition papers published personal attacks against Ambassador Ben-Elisar and called for a boycott at least against the Israelis, if not against all Jews. Replying to a question by our correspondent Ehud Ya'ari regarding the authorities' reaction on this issue, a high-level government source said that Egypt was a democratic country and that Israel must understand that the transition to full normalization cannot be conducted at a uniform and smooth pace.

[Begin Ya'ari recording] Although there is no need to exaggerate the actual and immediate significance of the phenomenon, it would be wise to closely follow it. The opposition to normalization is heard more than its impact is felt. The boycott against Israelis exists on the intellectual and political margins; one does not encounter it in daily life here.

However, the peripheral situation is also important, especially when the sides are trying to close their ranks. Indeed, as far as I have learned, contacts have begun and feelers have been extended in the last 2 days to create cooperation and coordination among the various groups opposed to normalization. The Islamic groups continue to attack the left and vice-versa, and they continue on unharmonious terms. However, both sides have apparently concluded that their separate activities, news conferences, posters and declarations are not appropriate.

Parliamentarian Mumtaz (Nasar), who represents a group of veteran national and liberal activists, has taken the initiative and is proposing a joint convention of all the organizations that oppose the normalization. This is certainly not a simple task. However, the very fact that the proposal has been made public is very interesting. This is an overt attempt to unite the opposition groups into one front with a definite mission: to struggle against normalization. If cooperation materializes among the Islamic groups and the left--as well as the groups of moderate activists from the Labor Party headed by Ibrahim Shukri, the Liberals led by Mustafa Murad and others in the center--then, this would set an important precedent.

Meanwhile, all these groups continue to sharply attack the normalization in the papers and in posters. A large protest rally has already been set by the Islamic groups for this Friday at the Al-Azhar University under the slogan: "For the Sake of Jerusalem." This will apparently be a new edition of the rally held about 1 month ago on the issue of Afghanistan. Will the authorities intervene to prevent the rally from being held or will they simply supervise it? This remains to be seen. Anyway, it is clear that the government is not going out of its way to impose the rule of normalization.

Thus, at a time when cultural exchange agreements are being signed and advertisements in local newspapers announce that the Nephertiti Company will begin its flights to Lod tomorrow, whoever wants to voice his opposition is not prevented from doing so. This is all from Cairo. [end recording]

BEGIN RECEIVES EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR MURTADA 6 MAR

TA061018 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 6 Mar 80 TA

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin received at his office in the Knesset Egypt's ambassador in Israel, Sa'd Murtada, for an initial courtesy talk. They discussed the situation in the region and the autonomy negotiations.

FOREIGN MINISTRY PROTESTS GISCARD'S STATEMENTS

TA051530 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 5 Mar 80 TA

[Text] Israel has protested to France about President Giscard d'Estaing's remarks about the Palestinians' right to self-determination. The director general of the Foreign Ministry, Yosef Ciechanover, invited the French ambassador to his office today and presented him with the protest. Ciechanover told the ambassador that President Giscard's remarks were significant showing that France thinks that the Palestinians have the right to a state and such a declaration contradicts the Camp David agreement and harms the peace process.

SUPPORT, CRITICISM VOICED ON JEWISH SETTLEMENT IN HEBRON

Gush Emunim Discusses Settlement

TA051120 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 5 Mar 80 p 1 TA

[Text] The Gush Emunim nucleus, which seeks to populate the Jewish houses in Hebron, held an assembly in Qiryat Arba' last night, in the wake of the Cabinet discussion about the revival of Jewish settlement in the city.

Rabbi Hayim Druckman reported that considerable progress had been reached at yesterday's Cabinet session regarding the reinstatement of Jews in Hebron, and that the next Cabinet session will apparently reach a positive decision on the subject. The prime minister told him he was in favor of Jewish settlement in Hebron, and Mr Druckman expressed hope that the premier would persevere despite pressures exerted on him both here and abroad.

Also, the rest of the religious Cabinet members told the nucleus members that they had favored Jewish settlement in Hebron, but the decision was postponed because the Cabinet wished, at that meeting, to stress its reaction to the Security Council resolution.

Minister Levi Tours Hebron

TA051615 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 5 Mar 80 T'

[Text] Housing Ministry's planning teams will arrive in Hebron tomorrow to work out a program to reconstruct Jewish houses in the town and to present it in the coming Cabinet meeting. This was stated by Housing Minister David Levi during an afternoon tour of Jewish-owned houses in Hebron. Minister Levi told our correspondent Moti 'Eden that the Hadassah building is an integral part of the Cabinet decision to settle Jews in Samaria. We have returned to our sources, the minister said, and they should be watered so that they can bloom again.

Liberals Dismayed by Levi's Visit

TA061021 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 6 Mar 80 TA

[Text] The Likud's liberal faction is ired by Housing Minister David Levi's visit to Hebron. Liberal Knesset members claim that nobody in the Cabinet charged David Levi to visit Hebron. The initiative was the housing minister's own and he promised that the visit would be a quiet one. Thus, the Liberals were surprised by the political statements made by Minister Levi during his visit in front of the numerous correspondents and television crews. The Liberal faction is to meet at the Knesset at noon today to discuss the issue.

Delay in Cabinet Discussion Sought

TA061131 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 6 Mar 80 TA

[Text] The Likud Liberals demand the prime minister delay discussing practical steps for resettling Jews in Hebron until their party's Central Committee deliberates the issue. Our Knesset correspondent Arye Golan remarks that this decision was adopted without any of the Liberal ministers opposing it. The Cabinet was due to discuss the practical means for the revival of a Jewish presence in Hebron at its next session. Knesset members Sara Doron and Pesah Grupper will meet with the prime minister today and raise their party's request.

La'am Discusses Settlement Policy

TA052034 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 5 Mar 80 TA

[Text] La'am's Political Committee calls on the government to reconsider its foreign policy and react firmly to the erosion occurring in the Common Market countries' position on the Middle East issue as well as to the U.S. participation in the UN Security Council's condemnation of the Israeli settlements. This committee, headed by Aharon Papo, sharply criticizes Weizman's remarks to the effect that the settlements are not needed from the security point of view. According to the La'am members Weizman's policy is shallow and lacks political depth and maturity.

Defense Establishment Criticizes Settlement

TA060937 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 6 Mar 80 pp 1,2 TA

[By military correspondent Ze'ev Schiff]

[Text] The decision to settle in the heart of Hebron and in Jabal al-Kabir, in close proximity to a dense Arab population, contradicts the previous government decision in principle on settlement in the territories as proposed by Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman, which took into account Israel's security needs in the territories. This was reported yesterday by defense establishment elements.

These elements said that the defense minister did not claim that all of the settlements were important from the aspect of security. The view is that there are settlements and collections of settlements with great security importance, but, in contrast to this, there are settlements that are causing security difficulties and problems and could even disrupt the peace process.

These sources said that the government itself had accepted the Defense Ministry's plan for settlement in the territories and, by so doing, had established clear rules, which it was now violating. The basic considerations on which the settlement plan was built were: the political future of the different regions, Israel's national security needs and the status of the Arab population in those regions. In this context, two key principles were decided upon: Israel would not permit the establishment of a Palestinian state for the above mentioned regions; in those regions there would be self-determination for the inhabitants as long as no other political format was approved through mutual agreement.

It was pointed out that the settlement plan accepted by the government specifically identifies national objectives and those of national security. On the subject of security, the plan submitted to the government says that the establishment of a military infrastructure likely to represent a danger to the existence of the state, or of a terrorist infrastructure likely to cause a degeneration toward war would not be permitted in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. The plan also stated that Israel could not permit a third party to assume the responsibility for preventing the establishment of such a hostile infrastructure, and only the IDF was capable of and able to maintain the security arrangements.

As for the national objective, the plan says that the Jewish population in the territories should be large and consolidated. But, in addition to this, a settlement format should be created to guarantee that the Arabs and Jews would be able to live together. For this purpose, the settlement plan established rules concerning the status of the Arab population. Among other things, it points out that the Arab population must be permitted to run its own daily affairs, and it should be motivated to prefer a political arrangement and cooperation with Israel. They must not be driven from their lands, turned into second-class citizens, nor should [Jews]--live at their expense.

On the basis of these principles, it was decided that settlement in the territories would be carried out in large concenyrations, such as these in the Jordan rift valley, Gush 'Etzyon, around the Jerusalem metropolis and also at key crossroads on ridges controlling the coastal plain. These settlements would create a broad defense system for the containment and routing security. This would be in addition to the military infrastructure for Israel's defense needs.

The Defense Ministry says that, since the government decision, there have been attempts to deviate from this policy and that the murder of the yeshiva student in Hebron should not have changed it. The murder of the yeshiva student should have been dealt with by other measures, not by changing the settlement plan. Nor is there any reason for hasty decisions on settlement, the defense minister believes, because of the Security Council resolution. At the cabinet session, the defense minister stressed that showcase campaigns likely to drag in IDF forces and so harm security should be avoided.

LABOR PARTY TO ASSUME DOVISH POSITION AFTER ALLON'S DEATH

TA041210 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 4 Mar 80 p 1 TA

[By party affairs correspondent Amnon Barzilay]

[Excerpt] The Labor Party's political views may take a dovish turn in the near future. Such a view was expressed yesterday by party circles who believe that the death of Yig'al Allon has largely decreased the influence within the party of the hawkish forces and the pro-settlement groups, who objected to any change in the Labor Party's political-defense platform.

The political debate on the party's positions had been frozen due to the context between party Chairman Shim'on Peres and the late Allon. Party sources believe that Allon's death will markedly decrease the influence of those party elements that favor settlement beyond the Green Line. Thus, the job of the doves, including Abba Eban, Mikha Harish, Yosi Sarid, 'Uzi Bar'am and Menahem Hakohem--all of whom demand that Peres introduce substantive changes in the party platform--will become easier.

Senior personalities in MAPAM share these evaluations. Among them Secretary General Victor Shem-Tov and Haya Grossman and Naftali Feder. Grossman disclosed last week that she would prefer Peres as Labor Party chairman, because he is a pragmatist and is willing to adjust his positions. Allon, on the other hand, was a man of principles and held a certain security-political ideology which he was not prepared to give up.

Labor Party circles further noted that now that there is no competition for party leadership they expect Peres to express very moderate views regarding the future of the West Bank more freely. Mr Peres has quite often expressed such moderate views in closed forums, but was afraid of repeating them publically because of the competition.

JORDAN OPPOSES RESUMPTION OF GENEVA CONFERENCE

TA041700 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 4 Mar 80 TA

[Text] Jordan opposes the Geneva conference resuming activity because it fears that it will give its seal of approval to the Camp David agreements. Sources in East Jerusalem told our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari that Jordan is striving to convene a completely new international conference to be called by the UN Secretary General. The sources said that Jordan already has Soviet support for this initiative. The sources added that Amman is interested in joining the political process, but rejects the autonomy agreement because it fears that it will lead to a Palestinian state.

AFGHANISTAN

KABUL DENIES USE OF SOVIET TROOPS, NAPALM, GAS IN FIGHTING

LD052046 Kabul in Dari to Europe 1730 GMT 5 Mar 80 LD

[Text] The BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY has rejected the false rumors spread by imperialist information organizations. The single-voiced information organization of the West--these networks of sedition, accusations and lies--have disseminated another set of totally false reports to try to poison the clean minds of countrymen. And they are trying to provoke world opinion against our government and revolution.

Recently, Western news agencies, and in particular the Voice of America, (?quoting) the antirevolutionary leaders of thieves, have issued false reports to the effect that the military forces of the Afghan and Soviet armies, in fighting the antirevolutionary elements, have used napalm and (?nerve gas). They allege that many people have been annihilated and that villages have been wiped out.

The BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY, is rejecting this totally false report which it considers to be a (?fabrication), points out that, in the first place, the fighting has been carried by the valorous armed forces of Afghanistan, who are engaged all over Afghanistan, to eliminate the destructive and conspiratorial antirevolutionary bands that are being sent from Pakistan to our country after being trained by their American, Chinese and Egyptian instructors. Our armed forces are inflicting punishment on them and not a single Soviet soldier is taking part in this punishment.

The Soviet soldiers have been invited to Afghanistan merely to defend Afghanistan from imperialist aggression and to defend the sovereignty of our country by cooperating with the armed forces of Afghanistan. This is a fact, whether our enemies want to accept it or not. In the recent operations to cleanse the country of the [word indistinct] enemies and foreign servants, only Afghan soldiers and the military units of Afghanistan have been actually involved. Second, it is said with sincerity that, contrary to the hostile and false claims of the Western press no kind of incendiary bomb, be it napalm or something else, and no poisonous substance have been used in confronting the terrorists.

The armed freedom forces of Afghanistan, with the help of the victorious people of Afghanistan, are achieving fresh successes and are punishing the enemies of the country. These successes are thorns in the eyes of our enemies, and that is why they are resorting to lies, fabrications and accusations so that, in their views, they can regain the grounds lost to them. And thus they substitute lies for the truth in their propaganda.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE DISCUSSES DISTRIBUTION PROBLEMS

LD052240 Kabul in Dari to Europe 1730 GMT 5 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Following the resolutions of the first agricultural conference of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the successful execution of the urgent spring sowing and the final decision for the transportation and the distribution of 1,000 tons of improved wheat seeds, 1,200 tons of cultivable cotton seeds, 3,000 tons of superphosphate, and the aid of the USSR that will be imported via Turghondi port into the country were discussed at a meeting held on 2 March in the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform with the participation of the authoritative representatives of the Ministries of National Defense, Interior, Agriculture and Land Reform, Mines and Industries, Transport and Tourism.

At this meeting, in addition to other decisions taken, it was decided that an authoritative commission from the said ministries be formed for the purpose of easing and solving the difficulties of receiving, transportating and distributing said materials.

AFP: KARMAL SAYS SECURITY FRONTIER PART OF LARGER PROBLEM

BK051643 Hong Kong AFP in English 1615 GMT 5 Mar 80 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 5 Mar (AFP)--Afghan President Mr. Babrak Karmal has said that before he can ask the Soviet troops to go home, he must have a "creditable guarantee" principally from Pakistan that Afghan territory would not be "misused for subversive activity by free-booters from abroad."

In an interview to a Bombay-based weekly, Mr. Karmal said "There is no other reliable guarantee except the absolute and complete cessation of interventionist policies. And unless all the bases and training camps in which the CIA, Chinese, British, Egyptians and Israelis are involved are wound up and the flow of military hardware and resources ceases, there can be no peace." Mr. Karmal told the interviewer that his government would react favourable to any suggestion to convene a Geneva-type of conference on Indochina of the concerned parties to decide an agreed border force to police the explosive Afghan-Pakistan frontier.

Mr. Karmal said that the only proviso he would attach to any such agreement was that it should conform to the United Nations Charter so that there should not be "the slightest" meddling into the internal affairs of his country. Mr. Karmal said that the events in Afghanistan should be viewed in the background of various other developments. He said "U.S. imperialism, Chinese chauvinism and regional reaction has made Afghanistan the focal point of offensive."

"I must say that the securing of the Afghan frontier is only one of the aspects of a larger problem," he said. Mr. Karmal said "United States President Jimmy Carter postponed the ratification of the SALT II agreement; second, the U.S. decided to deploy cruise and Pershing-2 missiles in Western Europe; third, the interests of Palestinians were sacrificed at the altar of As-Sadat and Begin; fourth, the Persian Gulf and the Arabian Sea had been engulfed with nuclear-powered naval flotilla to crush the anti-imperialist and anti-U.S. revolution in Iran.

"In other words, this country is a scapegoat, a pretext for the United States and China to play up the presence of Soviet troops which entered my country in terms of our friendship treaty and the UN Charter to defend our national sovereignty. Once these stop, the Soviets will go," he said.

Mr. Karmal said that there were thirty bases and training camps in Pakistan adjacent to Afghan border, "Afghan fugitives who wished to return home were prevented by the Pakistani authorities and many of them had taken to plain banditry in the bordering area," Mr. Karmal said.

To a question of the interviewer, Mr. Karmal said that a commission had been set up to decide the new flag and emblem for the country. "The new flag will be partly green, the favourite colour of Islam," he said.

REBELS SUFFER SERIOUS SETBACK IN KONARHA FIGHTING

LD051513 Paris LE MONDE in French 4 Mar 80 p 4 LD

[Unattributed report: "Members of the Resistance Movement Admit They Have Suffered a Serious Setback"]

[Excerpts] A little more than 2 months after their massive entry into Afghanistan, the Soviet troops seem to be striving to overcome Muslim resistance as rapidly as possible. In recent days large-scale operations have been taking place in a number of regions, especially in Konarha Province where the guerrillas have admitted that they have suffered considerable losses. The Hezb-e Eslami organization stated that an 80 strong group of combatants was encircled near the village of (Kot) quite close to the Pakistani border on Friday night and subjected to intensive fire by government and Soviet ground and air forces. It appears that the Afghan and Soviet authorities decided to launch this offensive because they feared that they could be outflanked following the recent riots in Kabul.

A spokesman for another resistance movement stated on Saturday that the air force had machinegunned a crowd of some 2,000 people present at the funeral of guerrillas. It has also been reported that some members of the resistance movement have attacked sentries on duty at a large dam near the Kabul-Jalalabad road leading toward Pakistan which, it seems, was cut during the operation.

On Saturday a Soviet turboprop aircraft was intercepted by the Pakistani Air Force which gave chase to it after it violated Pakistani airspace. It flew back to Afghanistan after the Pakistani aircraft had fired two warning shots. Following this incident--the first of this kind--the Pakistani ambassador to Moscow lodged a "strong" protest with the Soviet authorities.

As far as the political sphere is concerned, the Afghan leaders are now preparing a constitution which, in theory, will guarantee individual rights and a legal system based on Islamic law. On Saturday and Sunday everything was quiet in Kabul.

At Peshawar, in Pakistan, talks among resistance groups have so far failed to lead to a union of the movements which are waging a struggle against the Kabul regime and Soviet presence. On Saturday, one of the main organizations--Hezb-e Eslami--withdrew from the talks. It asserts that three-fourths of combatants are loyal to it and, consequently, demands first place within the Islamic Alliance which is to regroup the six resistance movements. Two of these movements--the pro-Western and moderate Revolutionary National Front and Jam'iat-e Eslami, an Islamic movement--have denounced this attitude and Hezb-e Eslami's claims because it is very difficult to assess the effective importance of the influence of all components of the resistance movement "in the field."

Furthermore, Hezb-e Eslami rejected in advance any offer of aid by the Turks, Lebanese and Europeans who, according to certain rumors circulating in Peshawar, intend to form an "international brigade" in the resistance movement's service.

On 2 March there were 513,000 Afghan refugees registered in Pakistan whereas on 27 December there was 387,000. Many of the inhabitants of Paktia Province are among them. The Islamabad Government has announced the formation of a national organization to deal with this influx since international aid is far from adequate.

SOVIET REPORTEDLY DROP NERVE GAS ON TRIBESMEN

TA051528 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 5 Mar 80 TA

[Text] Refugees from Afghanistan say that fighter planes from the Soviet Union dropped nerve gas bombs on them while the planes were supporting an attack on the Konarha District, in the eastern part of the country. Western diplomats in Islamabad said that several tribesmen who were injured described the incident as follows: Suddenly we say that metal cans were dropping from the planes flying overhead and when they touched the ground grey, green and blue smoke came out of them. Many of us began to behave as though we had been driven crazy, others were paralyzed and died. The diplomats in Islamabad said that in that attack the Afghanistan Army was able to take control of several key towns in the Konarha district.

INTERVIEWS WITH REBEL LEADERS REVEAL DIVISIONS

LD051025 Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 1 Mar 80 supplement p 1 LD

[Carolien Roelants report on interviews with Afghan rebel leaders Sayyed Ahmad Gailani, Buranuddin Rabbani, Gulbuddin Hikmatyar and Sebqatollah Mojaddedi in Peshawar: "And the Conflicts Flourish"--date of interviews not specified]

[Text] With his Western clothes Sayyed Ahmad Gailani is a startling sight among the Afghan rebel leaders who reside in the Pakistani city of Peshawar.

His democratic ideas are at least as surprising as those of his five colleagues in the rebel alliance which was set up for the third time in January. "After liberation," he explained in his spacious well-kept villa, "Afghanistan will be a democracy. There will be direct parliamentary elections and a government accountable for its actions." He mentioned in passing that both parliament and government would be placed in an Islamic framework. However democracy and Islam go perfectly together, he said affably.

"No, no definitely not," Engineer Gulbuddin Hikmatyar's Hezb-e Eslami stressed: "Democracy and Islam do not go together, that is a very un-Islamic idea. Afghanistan will be a strict Islamic state with Gulbuddin as president. A group of wise men will adapt the laws to Islam on the basis of the Koran and the Sunna, all alcohol will be banned, women will stay at home once again and the mullahs will have more power."

Portraits of Ayatollah Khomeyni hang all over the dark Hezb-e Eslami offices.

Therefore how can Hezb-e Eslami and Gailani's National Front of Afghanistan's Islamic revolution join into one front? The surprise shown was great--Gailani renounced his pernicious democratic ideas when the coalition was formed under pressure from the Islamic countries in Islamabad. If, unfortunately, that is not the case he will be expelled from the alliance. Only Hezb-e Eslami's views count in the alliance, it was added, and dissidents will not be tolerated.

Gailani, who is by no means an admirer of Khomeyni, reacted with a disdainful shrug. On being pressed he said this much: "How do they intend to expel me from the coalition? Did they say that?" Hezb-e Eslami did not think it was necessary.

One important effect of the Russian invasion of Afghanistan is that the various rebel groups are at present no longer fighting their many mutual conflicts with weapons. However the conflicts themselves are flourishing, as is evident from the quarrel between Gulbuddin and Gailani, which is by no means an isolated instance. In fact quarrels between rival groups and splinter groups is a permanent aspect of the operetta being performed in Peshawar.

Indeed what is happening in the rebel stronghold of Peshawar is above all an operetta: A great deal is presented in a theatrical way but very little is actually being done. Aside from Gailani the stage is filled with Mojahedin with their flowing beards, their traditional pajama-like garments and their blankets casually wrapped round them. Most of them carry Russian automatic weapons for which they have requested Pakistani gun licenses.

The scene also adds to the effect. No stage designer could build more atmospheric rebel headquarters than the ones established here. The leaders' beautiful villas are in quiet suburban districts but the headquarters are in the old city. Horses and carts just manage not to collide with each other in the crowded unmetalled streets where all kinds of things are bought and sold amid the throng while goats sleeping in the sun make an attractive picture.

The mojahedin's offices are always guarded by youths with half-grown beards, an impressive array of weapons and bandoliers slung across their chests. Dozens of men pass through these guards, and according to the spokesmen they are messengers from Afghanistan coming to ask for help.

The operetta follows a simple libretto. The heroes are, of course, the mojahedin, the Islamic freedom fighters who are waging a holy war to save the oppressed Afghan people. The villains are the Russians, the Afghan Government and, to some extent, the Pakistan authorities which are refusing to arm the heroes and are hence labeled as un-Islamic--a term which is frequently heard.

All that is now needed is the happy ending. If it depends on the theatrical groups in Peshawar the audience will have to wait a long time. The rebel leaders have constantly said that they have absolutely nothing to do with the store-keepers' strikes in Herat and Qandahar which have been going on for 2 months. The recent riots in Kabul should be attributed to the Hazaras who, as Shi'ites in the predominantly Sunni Afghanistan, are an oppressed minority. Since they are doubly oppressed they are more likely to rebel than the rest of the capital's inhabitants. They demonstrated that last September with an uprising which was savagely crushed by the then President Amin. They would rather believe in themselves than in the bickering factions in Peshawar.

Dynamic

Sebqatollah Mojaddedi, the pontiff of the Afghan National Liberation Front--one of the six--received us ceremoniously in his villa. It was Friday so his headquarters was closed. A short biography which we were given before the interview states that he was an outstanding student and has an upright character and a dynamic personality. In addition it mentioned, among other things, "The depth of his thought, the power or his logical thought and his objectivity."

Professor Mojaddedi also willingly discusses "the postliberation period" which is a favorite, albeit unrealistic, subject in Peshawar. Freedom, equality and fraternity but also "real application of Islamic principles" are written clearly on his banner so that he stands between Gulbuddin and Gailani. The fight in Afghanistan against the "filthy gang whose dirty faces are known to our nation" and the Russians, "their masters," is also a popular subject. Sitting on a cushion on the floor with us squatting uncomfortably around him, he explained in a dignified way that he began almost empty-handed but has now liberated 16 provinces using weapons captured from the Russians and the Afghan Army "because nobody is giving us aid."

This cry of distress was echoed by his five colleagues. Pakistan refuses to help from fear of Russian revenge. The fraternal Islamic peoples will not give costly weapons to small factions quarreling among themselves and are demanding a strong coalition. However evidence of unity is far from forthcoming and therefore no weapons are being supplied at present.

Professor Mojaddedi also has the number of provinces liberated by his government in common with his colleagues. There is competition here, too, since each movement claims to be the largest and must therefore have liberated the greatest part of Afghanistan. The six largest movements have thus captured more tanks than the Afghan Army can ever have possessed.

Mojaddedi--a worthy and civilized man--does not take part in the mutual campaign of slander. In contrast to his rivals, he does not maintain that the others have achieved hardly anything or at most, perhaps, captured half a province. The Hezb-e Eslami has a particular bent for this, and chooses Gailani by preference as its target, partly because of his Western dress--an attire which after Hezb-e's victory in Afghanistan will be superseded by "a national uniform for state officials." Another target is Professor Rabbani, the leader of Jami'at Eslami, which pursues roughly the same aims as Hezb-e. It is contemptuously stated that he was expelled from Hezb-e Eslami years ago. Why is not made clear. Everybody--and Mojaddedi joins in this--accuses the others of starting the rebellion very belatedly.

The operetta in Peshawar was only really complete when the royalists (supporters of King Zahir, who was deposed by his nephew Da'ud in 1973) turned up. As if fearing that the new Afghanistan union national Islamic party--the longer the name the more impressive the movement--could perhaps become a threat, the six coalition partners have united against the royalists. Here they vie in the severity of their condemnation. Those royalists are traitors! After all, King Zahir tolerated the communists and thus in fact (albeit some 20 years later) invited the Russians in.

(Sayed Muhammed Farooq Haami), the royalists' secretary general, has brought 500 tribal chiefs to Peshawar to demonstrate Afghanistan's allegiance to Zahir Shah. However, this is dismissed as a puppet show. In Afghanistan itself I heard the contrary maintained; there was indeed talk in favor of Zahir's return. Here time has healed old wounds, since Zahir's fall was greeted with joy at the time. But according to Western diplomats, the various regimes since then have only become worse, and Zahir's rule now seems like a paradise.

Like all the others, the royalists have their constitution--"the best of all," the secretary general proudly states. Because the text is in Pashto and Farsi, I have as yet been unable to peruse this undoubtedly admirable piece of work. There are certainly translators to be found in the Netherlands, I was confidently told.

There are even social democrats in Peshawar. Gailani can indeed accept their ideas; he says that he has even sought to secure their inclusion in the coalition, but this was thwarted by the opposition of the others. In his Afghanistan "after the liberation," they will be allowed to operate. In the Afghanistan of the fundamentalist movements, this promise will not be valid.

Nobody knows exactly how much support and influence all these various movements have. The six largest movements (there are countless more than one-man tiny movements) each claim to have at least 100,000 fighters. Each says that it has the support of about 80 percent of the population; each claims to control the greatest part of the country. Western experts dismiss all this as gross exaggeration. It is part of the operetta which is necessary in order to secure international aid and recognition.

According to these experts, at least one zero must be subtracted from every figure given by rebels in Peshawar. The abundant reports of victory must be treated in the same way. The same action is not infrequently mentioned twice or three times, with an interval of a few months, perhaps not even with malicious intent: The same rumor often reaches Peshawar or Kabul more than once. Communications are really bad, even such an unimpeachable source in this respect as Professor Mojaddedi acknowledged, although this did not prevent him from reporting successful actions throughout the country.

Secret

The rebel leaders in Peshawar are planning a major spring offensive as soon as the snow, which is now making them so clearly visible to the Russian helicopter gunships, has melted. Do not write about it, Mojaddedi whispered, it is a great secret and if you do the Russians might hear about it. However others were certainly prepared to disclose a few details. Instead of attacks by small groups of mojahedin, major actions are planned with massive troops movements and full-scale tank strikes. This will drive the Russian soldiers from Afghanistan.

It is true that aside from the riots in the cities the rebellion is spreading throughout Afghanistan. However, how much that is due to the coordinated skills of the leaders in Peshawar is extremely dubious. Not much judging from their skill in mutual insinuation. The military coordination bureau--an element of the new alliance--has not yet started functioning. The rebel leaders do not win support by their ideology but by their personalities. It is scarcely conceivable therefore that supporters of Rabbani, who is ideologically close to Gulbuddin, would follow him or vice versa. A coordinated spring offensive--the wish is father to the thought. Of course Gailani's men have influence, especially in the fairly accessible border area. However, just as in the cities, the rebellion in the more remote districts depends more on the native population's own initiative. They all hate the Russians and on this point the rebels are right.

Even if there ever is a "postliberation period" Afghanistan's problems will not all be solved. All the statements, gossip and smear campaigns make it abundantly clear that each movement in Peshawar regards itself as the most suited to govern the country. Everybody now seems mainly concerned with obtaining a good starting position for the usual mutual power struggle. The Afghan operetta could end in tragedy.

INDIA

GANDHI ASSURES COOPERATION IN REBUILDING ZIMBABWE'S ECONOMY

BK060927 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 6 Mar 80 BK

[Text] Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi has sent her warmest congratulations to the newly elected leaders of Zimbabwe-Rhodesia Robert Mugabe on his massive electoral victory. In a message, the prime minister has also assured Mr Mugabe of India's full cooperation in restructuring the ravaged economy of that country.

In her letter, Mrs Gandhi said the valiant people of Zimbabwe have struggled long and hard for their liberation. They have demonstrated convincingly that freedom and democracy are not the monopoly of a few.

Mrs Gandhi said, while we rejoice in the imminent independence of Zimbabwe, we grieve with you for those who have laid down their lives. She expressed the hope that the martyrs will inspire the freedom struggle in southern Africa.

GOVERNMENT TO STRENGTHEN ASSAM-BANGLADESH BORDER VIGILANCE

BK051618 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 5 Mar 80 BK

[Text] The center has approved a series of urgent measures to strengthen vigilance along the Assam-Bangladesh border to effectively prevent clandestine influx of foreign nationals into Assam. A government pressnote issued in Gauhati says: These steps include additional deployment of Border Security Force [BSF], personnel for manning the posts and setting up of more border posts. These are in addition to the BSF battalion deployed already.

Meanwhile, the All Assam Students Union has decided to suspend its picketing in front of the state-owned central government offices in Assam from tomorrow. This decision has been taken by the students union in view of the proposed talks with the prime minister in New Delhi on the foreign national issue on Friday [7 March].

INDIAN EXPRESS CLAIMS MESSAGE SENT TO USSR URGING AFGHAN SOLUTION

BK060355 Hong Kong AFP in English 0345 GMT 6 Mar 80 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 6 Mar (AFP)--India has sent a message to the Soviet Union calling for an urgent solution to the Afghan crisis, the INDIAN EXPRESS reported today. The paper said that Hungarian Foreign Minister Frigyes Puja, who left New Delhi yesterday after an official six-day visit to India, was asked to deliver the message to Moscow.

Citing "well placed sources who are attaching considerable importance to the message", the paper said that India has suggested that the Soviet Union "should help in creating some openings so that non-aligned nations can come forward with concrete proposals to resolve the deadlock over Afghanistan".

EDITORIAL URGES JOINT EFFORTS WITH EEC IN AFGHANISTAN

BK051332 Bombay TIMES OF INDIA in English 28 Feb 80 p 8 BK

[Editorial: "Towards a Disaster"]

[Excerpts] The bloody upheaval in Kabul has settled several debatable points.

It has proved that the Afghan people hate the Soviet occupation forces almost to a man, that thousands of them are prepared to make the ultimate sacrifice in their desperate bid to regain their freedom, that the Russians have failed to cow them down with the massive display of their military prowess and that Mr. Babrak Karmal has failed to make himself and his Soviet allies even faintly acceptable to his countrymen. Thus, if the Kremlin had calculated that it had only to eliminate the dreadfully cruel Amin, establish its military presence in major towns and secure the main highways in order to stabilise a communist regime headed by one of its nominees, it must already be deeply regretting the decision to move into Afghanistan. If it had convinced itself that it can by and large absolve itself of responsibility of governing the country and fighting against the guerillas, it cannot now avoid the conclusion that it has made a grave blunder.

Mr. Babrak Karmal has not been seen for some days. During the upheaval in Kabul it was announced that he would be addressing the nation on television. He failed to appear. Instead, an old broadcast by him was put out. He may not have been replaced. Indeed, he may even be not on his way out. But he has become irrelevent. The Russians have had to take over the reins of government and they cannot hand it back to him or, for that matter, to someone else.

The U.S. administration is clearly delighted. It has quickly and gladly revised its earlier "pessimistic" assessment and concluded that the Soviet rulers face a Vietnam in Afghanistan. A U.S. spokesman has said that they will need to put another 300,000 to 400,000 troops into Afghanistan if they are even to try to secure a firm hold on the country. This view may turn out to be unduly "optimistic". But it is pertinent in that it is bound to encourage Washington to step up its assistance to the guerillas and, therefore, to Pakistan. And needless to add, the Chinese will follow suit. The Russians are not going to take these "provocations" lying down. They are going to respond to them with their traditional ruthlessness. They have hinted at the possibility of a pre-emptive strike at China's nuclear installations. That is too dreadful a prospect to discuss calmly and objectively. The men in the Kremlin, too, cannot be anxious to rush into a catastrophe of such dimensions. But there cannot be the slightest doubt that they will use the full panoply of their conventional military power to crush the resistance within Afghanistan--tanks, artillery, helicopter gunships, napalm and perhaps even poisonous gas. While it is premature to say that they will, if necessary, pursue the insurgents across the Khyber into Pakistan or bomb the guerilla camps inside that country as the Americans did in Indochina, this possibility cannot be dismissed out of hand. This is enough to indicate that a crisis of unknown proportions is rapidly developing and unless immediate steps are taken to control it, the international community may lose the capacity to do so. India under Mrs. Gandhi's leadership has been struggling hard to persuade the interested parties to see the perils ahead. While it has not put forward a specific plan, its efforts can perhaps be married with the EEC proposal for the neutralisation of Afghanistan. The proposal is at present nebulous. But it can be developed and made more concrete if the Russians are genuinely willing to withdraw their forces. Mr. Brezhnev has repeated his earlier statement that he is so prepared if the U.S. and China end their support to the insurgents. Washington is sceptical. Or so at least it says. But the discussions have to begin somehow somewhere. It may be worthwhile for New Delhi to find out. It and the EEC countries can co-ordinate their efforts.

PAKISTAN

SHAHI REMARKS ON AFGHANISTAN, U.S. AID, OTHER ISSUES

BK060734 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 5 Mar 80 BK

[Text] On the opening day of the 2-day all-Pakistan local bodies convention in Islamabad today, the councillors were briefed about the impact of international developments on Pakistan and the economic situation pertaining in the country. The convention, presided over by President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, is being attended by 315 councillors from all over the country including women and minorities representatives.

Addressing the convention, Adviser on Foreign Affairs Agha Shahi said that Pakistan is ready to participate in any process, bilateral or international for a guarantee by the superpowers of the independence, neutrality and nonalined status of Afghanistan after the withdrawal of Soviet troops from that country. He made it clear that any guarantee on Pakistan's part of the neutrality of Afghanistan would necessitate reciprocal Afghan recognition of the international frontiers and a committment to noninterference in the internal affairs of Pakistan.

The adviser on foreign affairs said as an essential element of a political settlement, it must be insured that conditions of security inside Afghanistan are created to enable the refugees to return to their homeland. The right of the Afghan people to determine for themselves the political system of their choice must be respected. He emphasized that successful culmination of such a process would enable Pakistan to revive without further delay the traditional ties of friendship and mutual benefit with whatever national government that comes at the helm of affairs in Kabul.

Agha Shahi emphasized that their principled stand on the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan is free from any element of anti-Sovietism. Tracing the genesis of Pakistan-Soviet relationship, he said it has been their experience that the Soviet Union has made its relationship with Pakistan conditional on the nature of Pakistan's relations with our two neighbors who were allied to the Soviet Union through friendship treaties which had invariably led to military intervention. Nevertheless, we do not view the future with pessimism. The withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan would enable us to immediately repair our bilateral relations.

Agha Shahi strongly denied the Western press reports that the United States was supplying light weapons across the Pakistani border to the insurgent forces in Afghanistan.

Turning to the role of the United States in this crisis, the advisor on foreign affairs referred to the talks held with American Presidential Security Adviser Brzezinski and U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Christopher and said that it was not possible for the two sides to reach an accommodation either in regard to the strengthening of the U.S. security committment or the quantum of the aid package to Pakistan which was wrapped up in onerous conditions. Agha Shahi said that considering all the drawbacks, Pakistan had officially conveyed to the American Government that it was not interested in the aid package as proposed and had specifically disassociated herself from any U.S. initiative to introduce the relevant legislation in the U.S. Congress.

The adviser on foreign affairs said that a number of countries had indicated their readiness to increase their economic assistance to Pakistan. He said Pakistan, for its security, must depend primarily on its national unity and strength. It must also rely on political, moral and material support from the Islamic and the nonalined world as well as the timetested friendship of China.

He said that Pakistan was pursuing the goal of normalization of relations with India under the Simla Agreement which is essential for peace and stability of the entire South Asian region. He however regretted the statements by Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi on the Soviet military occupation of Afghanistan. He described as devoid of any rational basis the clamor raised by India over the modest military sales credits which had been offered by the United States to Pakistan.

Agha Shahi declared: Let the one superpower compel Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories, including the holy city of Jerusalem, and the other superpower end its military occupation of an Islamic country, Afghanistan.

Agha Shahi referred to the forging of indissoluble links between Pakistan and other Islamic countries particularly those in the Gulf region. He said there is a special place for Saudi Arabia which stands out amongst the Islamic countries as the custodian of holy places of Islam and had given generous economic and defense assistance to Pakistan. Iran also had a special place in our hearts as it was equally interested in the security and prosperity of Pakistan as a bastion of Islam.

Radio Pakistan's representative says as soon as the adviser on foreign affairs concluded his speech a large number of councillors stood up to express their own feelings and sentiments and those of the people of their areas with regard to the situation with which the country is faced. More than half a dozen councillors representing the Northwest Frontier Province, Baluchistan, Sind and the Punjab were to speak by the time of (special) prayers when the proceedings were adjourned till tomorrow morning. There was a note of unity in the speeches of the councillors and they conveyed the determination of the people to defend the physical and ideological frontiers of the country to the last drop of their blood.

Call for Olympic Boycott

OW052108 Paris AFP in English 1859 GMT 5 Mar 80 OW

[Text] Tokyo, March 5 (AFP)--Pakistan supports a non-aligned and neutral Afghanistan, with the withdrawal of Soviet troops vital to any solution of the crisis, Pakistani Presidential Adviser Agha Shahi said in a newspaper interview here today.

In the interview yesterday in Islamabad with the ASAHI SHIMBUN newspaper, Mr. Shahi also said that the Pakistani Government will advise the country's national Olympic committee "in the very near future" to boycott the Moscow Olympics this summer. He stressed, however, that any decision on participation in the Olympics should be made by the national Olympic committee.

Mr. Shahi said that Pakistan had never closed its door to dialogue with the Soviet Union and its diplomacy was not "anti-Soviet," despite Pakistan's denunciations of the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

He said it was impossible at present to hold direct talks with the Afghan Government. But, Pakistan may hold talks with the Soviet-backed Karmal regime if Soviet troops moved out.

PRC Defense Pact, Indian Hegemony

BK060921 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 6 Mar 80 BK

[Text] Addressing the all-Pakistan local bodies convention in Islamabad this morning Adviser on Foreign Affairs Agha Shahi said that Pak-China friendship is trustworthy and is based on complete mutual trust and benefit and neighbor country needs any formal defense agreement between them. He was replying to questions from councillors raised yesterday and this morning in the light of his statement on foreign policy.

Agha Shahi said the friendship between the two countries is not only trustworthy but has proved fully correct in every test. He said the Foreign Ministry has been studying the question of a defense treaty with China for a considerable time. China, however, is of the view that what is important is mutual confidence and trust and hence there is no need for an agreement. He referred to the large-scale aid provided by China to the Vietnamese without any agreement. In this context, Agha Shahi referred to the statement of former Chinese Prime Minister Zhou Enlai in which he said despite a 20-year military agreement between China and the Soviet Union, there is not much importance to it.

Answering another question, Agha Shahi categorically stated that there is no defense agreement with India under study. He said relations between Pakistan and India are based on the Simla Agreement. There is need to solve differences existing between the two countries on some issues. He said India wants to establish its hegemony in the region which is not acceptable to Pakistan and other countries of South Asia. He said Pakistan has not received any formal proposal from India for any regional conference to solve the Afghan problem.

The adviser on foreign affairs stated that India's policies are not based on any principles. Hence, it is in a bargaining position with both the United States and the Soviet Union.

On a demand from the councillors that very close friendly relations be established with Bangladesh, Agha Shahi stated that close friendly relations exist between the two countries.

Agha Shahi said Pakistan is going through a very difficult period and the whole nation is aware of this. He added that President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq has instructed all Pakistani missions abroad to make strong efforts to promote national interests in overseas countries.

The 2 all-day Pakistan convention is concluding as scheduled this afternoon. President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq will address the concluding session.

Further Report

BK061119 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 6 Mar 80 BK

[Excerpts] Replying to another point [raised by the councillors] Agha Shahi said that Pakistan had received valuable assistance from Islamic countries in the present situation. To such an extent the United States had supported them.

Agha Shahi, in reply to a demand by the councillors for forging greater friendship with Bangladesh, said that the two countries had very cordial relations. Bangladesh, he added, had rendered valuable services to Islam by taking the initiative in proposing the holding of the Islamic Conference at Islamabad and by its contribution in the Security Council as one of its members.

Agha Shahi agreed with the councillors on the question of hostile and indifferent attitude of the foreign media against Pakistan. He pointed out that most of the Western media were under the control of the Zionists and their hostility was quite obvious. It particularly raises their feelings because Pakistan is championing the cause of the Muslim world including the question of the right of self-determination of the Palestinians.

JAPAN'S SONODA VIEWS AFGHAN DEVELOPMENTS DURING VISIT

BKD60442 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 6 Mar 80 BK

[Text] There is complete identity of views between Pakistan and Japan in regard to the prevailing situation in Afghanistan and its implications for peace and regional stability. This was officially stated in Islamabad yesterday after talks held between special envoy of the Japanese Prime Minister Mr Sunao Sonoda and Adviser on Foreign Affairs Mr Agha Shahi. During the talks matters of interest in bilateral relations, the current international and regional situation and the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan and resulting situation were especially reviewed.

Both sides agreed that the basic and essential prerequiste for a solution to the problem of Afghanistan is the immediate, complete and unconditional withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan as called upon under the resolutions of the UN General Assembly and the Islamic foreign ministers conference and the creation of such conditions in Afghanistan which will enable the people of Afghanistan to determine their own destiny free from any outside interference or pressure and allow the Afghan refugees to return to their homeland in safety and with honor and dignity.

Mr Sonoda conveyed the decision of the Japanese Government to provide 32 billion yen, equivalent to about 128 million U.S. dollars, as assistance for Pakistan's economic development during the Japanese fiscal year beginning in April. The amount includes 32 million U.S. dollars equivalent to 8 billion yen in the form of grants. The total pledge represents more than double the Japanese aid to Pakistan last year.

The special Japanese envoy also assured Pakistan that together with other aid-giving countries, Japan will try to remove the obstacles in debt repayments. Mr Sonoda also conveyed the decision of his government to provide Pakistan with about 1.5 million U.S. dollars equivalent to about 300 million yen for Afghan refugees. Members of the Pakistani delegation lauded and thanked the Japanese Government for its attitude on increased economic assistance and timely aid for the Afghan refugees. Pakistan also expressed satisfaction over Japan's willingness to aid in Pakistan's economic progress and to promote regional stability.

Special envoy of the Japanese Prime Minister Mr Sonoda called on President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Islamabad yesterday evening and stayed with him for some time. He delivered a letter from the Japanese prime minister to the president. Adviser on Foreign Affairs Agha Shahi and the Japanese ambassador in Pakistan were also present.

Discusses Arms With Haq

OW060301 Tokyo KYODO in English 0226 GMT 6 Mar 80 OW

[Text] Islamabad March 6 KYODO--Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq told Japanese Special Envoy Sunao Sonoda Wednesday that the United States was not fully meeting Pakistan's aid request for fear of irritating India. The United States has offered dollar 400 million economic and military aid to help Pakistan guard against the Soviet invasion of neighboring Afghanistan.

Haq was quoted as telling Sonoda, however, that the U.S. aid offer was far too small. He was understood to have expressed his dissatisfaction that the weapons offered by the United States as aid were limited to those for defense purposes.

Officials accompanying Sonoda on his current visit here said that Haq was apparently ready to shelve the U.S. aid offer unless the amount is increased substantially.

If the U.S. aid is suspended, the sources commented that Pakistan will have the freedom to purchase arms from the United States and European countries with aid from other Islamic countries.

The Pakistani president did not make it definite during his talks with Sonoda, however, that the U.S. aid offer will be turned down, the sources said.

Sonoda, former foreign minister visiting here in the course of his Middle East and Southwest Asian tour as Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira's special envoy,met with Haq for about one hour and 15 minutes Wednesday evening (Thursday morning JST) in Rawalpindi.

According to the sources, Haq told Sonoda that the Soviet Union, as a result of its advance toward south through Afghanistan, now holds a geopolitical advantage over the United States. [sentence as received] If Pakistan should come under the Soviet influence, Haq was quoted as saying, the areas from Turkey to Vietnam will all slip out of the U.S. influence. Should this be the case, the Pakistani president said, China will be confined from its West and oil supply lines for industrialized countries will be threatened, according to the sources.

The sources said Haq told Sonoda that the Soviet force in Afghanistan was estimated at 90,000 men, making up nine to 10 divisions equipped with modern weapons.

Sonoda told Haq during the meeting that Japan considered the peace and security of Pakistan vital for its own peace and security, the sources said. According to the sources, Sonoda said Japan will give its support to Pakistan independently and added that Japan will:

--Try to promote close, cooperative relations with Pakistan.
--Make efforts to obtain international understanding on Pakistan's present situation and the significance it bears to world affairs.
--Will inform the United States of the outcome of Sonoda's visit to Pakistan because Japan maintains special relations with the United States.

The sources said Haq told Sonoda that the yen 32 million Japanese economic and technological aid promised Wednesday will be used for natural gas resources development, vocational training of Afghan refugees in Pakistan and improvement of transportation networks. The Pakistani president was also quoted as telling Sonoda that oil deposits were discovered recently in Pakistan and that Japanese participation will be welcomed in the development of them. He did not say, however, where the deposits were or how large they were, according to the sources.

SPOKESMAN DENIES VIOLATION OF AFGHAN AIRSPACE

BK060843 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 6 Mar 80 BK

[Text] The attention of the spokesman of the Foreign Ministry has been drawn to the statement of the Afghan Foreign Ministry broadcast by Radio Kabul on the third of this month alleging that an aircraft of the Pakistan air force violated Afghan airspace.

The Foreign Office spokesman categorically denied this and stated that no aircraft of the Pakistan Air Force has violated Afghanistan's airspace.

The spokesman added that the Afghan allegation has been made to cover up Afghanistan's continued violation of Pakistan's airspace by its own aircraft.

ENVOY TO INDIA REPLIES TO OBJECTIONS ON U.S. ARMS AID

BK051657 Hong Kong AFP in English 1455 GMT 5 Mar 80 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 5 Mar (AFP)--Pakistan today asked what guarantee there was that arms manufactured or imported by another country would not be used against it.

Pakistan Ambassador Abdul Sattar, who asked this question, apparently referring to India's objections to resumption of U.S. arms aid to his country, said: "If such guarantees can be devised, Pakistan would welcome them and join in extending them on a reciprocal basis." This was stated in the advance text of his address to Rotary Club of Allahabad, in Uttar Pradesh, circulated by the Pakistan Embassy here.

Mr. Sattar said that this country would like the U.S. restrictions on military sales to it to be lifted. He justified this on the ground that Pakistan did not have "industrial capacity for the indigenous production of required arms."

The ambassador felt that the importance and significance of the solemn undertakings and commitments given by Pakistan and India not to use force or threat of force against each other, should not be ignored.

Obviously referring to the statements of Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko, Mr. Sattar said that "responsible ministers of some of the socialist states were heard recently during their visits to New Delhi to hurl threats at Pakistan's independence." Such attempts at "intimidation" can hardly inspire confidence in their good will and friendly professions or contribute to the creation of an environment of peace and security, he added.

FEDERAL MINISTER ADDRESSES LOCAL BODIES CONVENTION

BK060859 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 5 Mar 80 BK

[Text] Addressing the [all-Pakistan local bodies] convention, Federal Minister for Local Government Maj Gen Jamal Syed Mian said that wide-ranging powers are being given to the local bodies to help them discharge their duties in an effective manner.

Federal Finance Minister Ghulam Ishaque Khan told the convention that as a result of the policies followed by the present government over the last 2 and 1/2 years, there has been satisfactory improvement in the national economy. The basic aim of the government's policy is to remove the imbalances in different sectors of the economy, boost national production, improve productivity and encourage private investment. The government, he said, is giving top priority to increased agricultural production.

Radio Pakistan's representative says that after the speeches of the two ministers, the councillors put forth the problems of their respective areas and a number of remedial suggestions. Intervening, President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq assured the councillors that the entire government machinery is at their disposal to hear the points raised by them during the convention.

He urged them to take full advantage of the occasion and make their suggestions on various topics that come under discussion. He said as far as he is concerned, he will speak on them tomorrow.

The local bodies councillors attending the convention were the guests of P esident Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq at a dinner hosted by him in Islamabad tonight. The dinner was also attended by the provincial governors, federal ministers and senior government officials.

INTERVIEWS INDICATE BALUCHIS WOULD WELCOME SOVIET INTERVENTION

LD041409 Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 27 Feb 80 p 8 LD

[Barry Shlachter dispatch: "Baluchis in Pakistan Favor a Soviet Intervention"]

[Text] Quetta, Pakistan, 27 February--Many Pakistan Government officials fear that the underdeveloped Province of Baluchistan will be the Soviet Union's next target after Afghanistan. Indeed this is the fervent hope of many Baluchis--a proud people who live in tribal groups in an inhospitable land of deserts and barren mountains.

"Some people say that the Russians will come within 2 years," a headmaster in Quetta stated. "I give them another 5 years, but I am very cautious." An underground leader of the influential Baluchi student organization explained: "If the Russians march in things are bound to improve for us." A tribal leader explained that since 1947 the Pakistani troops have twice brutally crushed an uprising and that the people therefore think things could be no worse under the Russians.

"Many Baluchis regard the Russians as potential allies in their fight for autonomy," according to the tribal leader, who, like most people questioned in the provincial capital of Quetta, wishes to remain anonymous. "They will welcome anybody who comes to liberate them."

It is clear what this means in strategic terms: If the Kremlin still cherishes the tsars' old dream of possessing a warm-water port somwhere, Baluchistan offers an excellent opportunity of realizing it in view of its location on the Arabian Sea not far from the most important oil routes.

Deep-Seated

The population's hostility toward outsiders, particularly toward the Punjabis who hold the top posts in the Pakistani Army and Government, is deep-seated.

The 1973-1977 war is still fresh in their memories. According to the authorities in Quetta this war killed 1,700 Pakistani soldiers and 3,000 Baluchi rebels. After important tribal leaders had been arrested the Baluchi uprising was crushed with the help of three army divisions, artillery shelling and air attacks.

In neighboring Iran the shah feared that the uprising would spread to his own Baluchi minority. Therefore he came to the Pakistani Government's aid with helicopters and gunboats.

According to rough estimates, 3,000 members of the Marri tribe fled to neighboring Afghanistan where they were given asylum. A number of them are still there and reports claim that some have gone to the Soviet Union and Cuba to be trained.

Leftwing student groups and feudal tribal chiefs who are far from in agreement on most political questions have in the past made no secret of their sympathies for Moscow. Activist students who burned the Pakistani flag last fall and protested against the help being given to anticommunist Afghan rebels rallied to the call: "The Soviet Union, Standard-Bearer of Liberation."

Almoo Kalpur Bugti, who took up arms against the Pakistani Army in the sixties, said: "Our beards have turned gray in the fight for freedom." "We beseech God to liberate us in all our prayers."

Like other Baluchis he thinks that President Mohammed Ziaul-Haq's military government is not much different from previous regimes. "Who still believes that Pakistan will give-us anything?" this old turbaned farmer asked. "The governments have always tricked us."

Crucial Point

However with the Soviet troops just over the border in Afghanistan a number of tribal chiefs are beginning to think differently about the independence struggle. They realize that they would be the first to go as soon as the Russians invaded.

"We know that we are a crucial point from the international strategic viewpoint," 52-year old Nawab Akbar Bugti, head of the 100,000-strong Bugti tribe, told us. "That is why all evil eyes are turned on our poor barren country." He pointed out that a compromise could be reached with Zia's government whereby Baluchistan would become virtually independent. "We want the greatest possible autonomy within Pakistan," Bugti said. He was formerly provincial governor and spent 6 years as a political prisoner. "We want to run own affairs."

According to him some Baluchi leaders now believe that the Islamabad leaders could well be more "understanding" now because of the Afghan crisis. "However they have often made promises in the past. Their promises are worthless. If they want to do something they must do it now because the young people of Baluchistan are restless and very radical."

Baluchistan covers 40 percent of Pakistan territory but only 4 percent--2.5 million people--of the country's population lives in the province.

The Baluchis complain that they are still the poorest people in Pakistan because they have long been neglected by the central government. They criticize the government for the fact that their natural gas, coal, chromium, iron ore and other natural resources are not used for their benefit.

Government officials reject this criticism. They say that the Baluchis receive subsidized natural gas and that it is difficult and costly to provide good facilities for a population which is spread over such a large area.

SRI LANKA

OFFICIAL SAYS SURVEYS REVEAL POSSIBIE URANIUM DEPOSITS

BK041351 Colombo CEYLON DAILY NEWS in English 13 Feb 80 p 5 BK

[By Winston de Valliere]

[Excerpts] Preliminary surveys carried out late last year on an islandwide basis had revealed the possibility of uranium deposits in Rakwana, Ratnapura, Embilipitiya, Wilpattu and the Maha Oya area, a spokesman for the Mining and Mineral Development Corporation siad yesterday.

Analysis of soil and silt concentrations from stream beds in the areas had revealed a .03 percent concentration of minerals that contain the radioactive uranium, he said. The islandwide surveys were carried out on the basis of one soil extract from every 40 square mile area within an aggregate 500 square mile area of these districts. This would be followed up with more detailed soil tests, he said.

The surveys, initiated by the Geolgoical Department of Ceylon, were conducted with experts from the International Atomic Energy Authority of Vienna, (IAEA), the spokesman said. The surveys were a followup of recommendations submitted by a Viennese expert who assisted in the point explorations.

The state Mining and Mineral Development Corporation would obtain more assistance from IAEA for further explorations, the spokesman said.

The next step would be a detailed sampling program with soil extracts on a smaller scale, possibly on the basis of a sample from every 10 square mile area from the identified 500 square miles.

While the corporation was placing the uranium explorations on a priority footing, the spokesman was emphatic that no false hopes were to be held out to the public. He said that better results from the scaled-down soil sample survey would lead to a thorough subsurface drilling program.